



# *The* **LOW DOWN**

Call **Buddy Young Greatest**

**Ball Carrier of All Time**

*Daily Worker*  
By **Nat Low**

Claude "Buddy" Young has not received one-tenth the publicity of Army's famous touchdown twins, Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard, but there are football players, fans, coaches and writers who say he is the "great ball carrier of all time."

*new York, N.Y.*

The 19-year old Negro track and grid star who entered the Navy from University of Illinois two years ago, finished his season with the Fleet City Bluejackets on Sunday in Los Angeles and put on a show that brought unanimous acclaim from the crowd of 59,000 who saw him.

Young, who played less than twenty minutes of the contest, returned a kickoff 94 yards and punt 88 yards for touchdowns the first two times he touched the ball as the Fleet City boys beat the powerful El Toro Marines, 48-25.

The Associated Press story in yesterday's papers carried this lead, "The Army can have Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard. The Fleet City Navy—and the sportswriters and football followers who saw him unwind three spectacular touchdown runs—will take Claude 'Buddy' Young."

*12-11-45*

The AP quoted Lieut. Col. Dick Hanley, coach of the Marines, as saying, "The greatest runner I have ever seen—bar none."

## COAST COLUMNIST RAVES

Vincent X. Flaherty, sports columnist of the Los Angeles Examiner writing on Wednesday Dec. 5, says:

"Sunday when Buddy Young pulls on a white helmet over his ears and goes into Fleet City's backfield against the El Toro Marines at the Coliseum, you may be watching the greatest ball carrier in the history of the game.

"Nobody seems to dispute the oft-repeated statement about Buddy being the fastest man in American football. Such old hands as Slip Madigan have gone overboard in their lofty praise of the little Negro flash from Illinois."

*12-11-45*

"Opinions of Young, from all sides, continue to be lavish and seemingly extravagant. Madigan says six players must be assigned to Young on every play. All who have seen him streak across a football field liken him to something supernatural. They say he takes off with unbelievable speed; that he stops and starts like a wild thing; that he does things on a gridiron no player ever dreamed of doing before. Everyone remarks about the way he stops cold—puts on the brakes while in full flight, waits for interferers, picks them up, and takes off again like a shot. His team-mates swear he can fly over the turf close to 9.6 in full uniform.

"In this jumbled day of alleged racial prejudices, it is interesting to note that Buddy's greatest boosters among his Fleet City team-mates are the Southern white boys on the squad—and the squad is preponderantly composed of Southern boys.

"The Fleet City-El Toro game is just about the toughest grudge match that has come along in football in many a day. In their first meeting, while Fleet City won, 21-7, the Fleet City players recall a tense incident when hot words were exchanged over the treatment of Young. They say Young was roughed by an El Toro lineman. The first to come to Young's aid was Frank "Bruiser" Kinard, a Southerner (and former star for the Brooklyn grid Dodgers) with a drawl of such velvety thickness you couldn't cut it with a paratrooper's knife. Kinard comes from Mississippi. He is one of Young's best

Buddy Young

friends.

## HAS OVERSHADOWED GREAT ALL-AMERICANS

"The most convincing testimony to Young's greatness is the fact that he has overshadowed all of the great backfield stars of the Fleet City roster—players of such renown as Steve Juzwik, of Notre Dame; Charlie O'Rourke, of Boston College; Harry Hopp, of Nebraska, and Andy Uram, of Minnesota."

*12-11-45*

"There is no resentment. Instead, the Juzwicks and Hopps and O'Rourkes and Urams marvel at Young's ability. Courage is something commonly taken for granted in football. A fellow either has it, or he's lacking in the game's prime requisite. The Fleet City players go into rhapsodies about Buddy's astonishing courage, and of the pellmell manner he lets fly into the biggest players on the field. . . head-on!"

"In the first El Toro game, Juzwik gathered in a punt. He was going at top speed. A big 240-pounder was charging at him. Something flew across Juzwik's thighs, crashed into the big Marine and brought him down with a resounding smack. It was Young. The block enabled Juzwik to pick up 35 yards—after which Juzwik ran all the way back to shake Young's hand.

"Although his team-mates kid him unmercifully about his enormous appetite at mess time, Buddy rates with Bruiser Kinard and Harry Hopp as one of the three most popular members of the Fleet City squad.

"Undoubtedly there is something phenomenal about 19-year-old Buddy Young. Sunday, when he shifts into his three speeds (fast, faster and fastest) you will be watching a player who may go down in football history as one of the greatest ball carriers of all time. Bear in mind, he is even now beginning his career!"

## 'Buddy' Young

## Is Enigma As

## Schools Bid

*W.A. Birmingham News*  
BY RUSS NEWLAND

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18—(P)—

The "Ebony Streak" of football will be getting out of the Navy before not too long now, at least before the Spring pigskin thumping begins. The "Ebony Streak," of course, is Claude "Buddy" Young, who hurried the Fleet City Bluejackets through an undefeated season, just finished.

Will "Buddy" Young return to the University of Illinois, where he was the freshman backfield sensation in 1944? Or will he wind up at the University of California, at Los Angeles, where such other Negro stars as Kenny Washington, Jackie Robinson and Woodrow Wilson Strode earned lasting athletic fame?

There is a powerful tug of war game going on behind the scenes now between alumni, students and friends of the two universities. Young recently informed an Illinois official, so we learn, that he intends to return to his old alma mater. In the populous Negro quarter, the elite and influential of Central Avenue are leaving no stone unturned in efforts to convince speedy "Buddy" Young that U. C. L. A. offers many educational as well as athletic advantages.

*12-19-45*

When Fleet City played in Los Angeles recently Young was the honored guest at Central Avenue functions after the game. One of the team officials says "Buddy" was lionized, to say the least.

AAL of this activity in behalf of Young is extra-curricular, so to speak, and inspired on good faith by Los Angeles residents of his race. They want him to become a permanent citizen of the community. The fact he is the fastest half-back in the country, the scourge of any gridiron he cleats and that he has three years of college football eligibility ahead of him, has some bearing on the case also.

It should be understood that members of the U. C. L. A. athletic staff have no hand whatsoever in the "Young to U. C. L. A." movement. It also is reasonable to assume they will not try to discourage the young man if he seeks registration at the school. His transcript of courses and grades would receive as much consideration as any other prospective registrant.

With "Buddy" Young in uniform, we can see U. C. L. A. in the Rose Bowl, if not on New Year's Day of 1947, perhaps a year later.

Illinois followers, as observed, firmly believe Young will return to lend his valuable aid in running the legs off Big Ten rivals. We believe the Illini have the inside track but take nothing for granted. Not until Young is back on the campus, signed, sealed and delivered.





## THE LOW DOWN

### Rounding Up the

### Loose Sport Ends

Daily Worker

By Nat Low

Mike Jacobs has an offer of \$3,000,000 from a group of Brazilian gambling casino owners to put on the Louis-Conn fight at the Quitandinha resort near Rio de Janeiro. The gamblers figure they will take a loss of three-quarters of a million dollars on the fight but would make up for that sum in publicity.

They don't stand much of a chance of getting the fight, however, even if the price were four million smackeros. 12-6-45

The Sporting News All-America team this year has five backs on it. Seems the pickers, 163 sports writers and broadcasters, were tied on St. Mary's Herman Wedemeyer and Alabama's Harry Gilmore so they named both. The three other backs on the team are Blanchard, Davis and Oklahoma's Bob Fenimore.

Lou Nova has finally wound up in Hollywood—where he should have been some time ago. The handsome Californian has been signed by 20th Century-Fox for a "tough guy" role in "Somewhere in the Night." . . . A reader wants to know if Blanchard is really that good or is all a lot of publicity. True, there is always a good deal of publicity surrounding a good football player, but in Blanchard's case it is all legitimate. The man is the best, probably one of the best gridders of all time. new York, N.Y.

Jackie Robinson's former Army comrades, now stationed in Germany, want the world to know they think Jackie can make good with the Montreal Royals and later the Brooklyn Dodgers. Members of the 761st Tank Battalion, which Robinson served with as a lieutenant before being discharged, have written the Baltimore Afro-American, Negro weekly. Said the GIs: "We want him to know that we're pulling for him although we're away over here in the heart of Hitler's former National Redoubt. The men all believe that he can and will make the grade in the majors. Every single one of us felt a thrill when news reached us that Robbie had been signed by Branch Rickey."

In our poll of college football teams which have Negro players, we did not mention Lafayette which, for the first time in its long history, had a Negro gridder this season. He is Roland Prime, 230-pound fullback, who smashed his way to his team's only touchdown in last week's upset victory over Lehigh. 12-6-45

Milton Wolf, national commander of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, has written us regarding Sidney Franklin, the Brooklyn-born bull thrower who has come back from Franco Spain raving about the conditions there and defending his work for the Falange.

Says Wolf, "As adept as Sidney is with the bull, he is less capable in the field of propaganda. His statement that everyone is eating well in Spain, despite the fact that there is no sugar, barley, oats or bread is an amazing contradiction. Barley, oats, wheat and bread

## General

happen to be the staples of life for the Spanish people—for the kind of people who do not eat in the high society of Falangists—in the hotels and cafes of Madrid and Barcelona.

"The fact that Franklin is a Brooklyn boy and Jewish makes his case for Franco even more deplorable. Perhaps he is unaware of the fact that Franco's Falange Exterior operating in South America has been responsible for the first anti-Semitic riots ever to take place in Latin American countries, and the Madrid radio daily broadcasts in Arabic, beamed to the French Moroccans and Spanish Moors, continuous harangues against the Palestinian Jews.

"Sidney, if you have to confine yourself to the bull to make a living, keep it in the bull ring."



## THE LOW DOWN

### A Pertinent Letter

### And Some Comments

Daily Worker

By Nat Low

Reader Jim Phillips of Brooklyn comes in with an interesting letter in which he makes a lot of pertinent comment, to wit: new York, N.Y.

"I can't understand why you did not try to get anything done during the past season about ending Jimcrow in pro football? As soon as the baseball season ended that was the end of the drive to smash Jimcrow in sports. Why should we ignore football, basketball and other sports? Even though the pro football season is over, the formation of a new league with a team in our city gives us a fine chance to start that league off right with no color line. If that could be done the regular league will have to follow suit.

"In the other day's paper you had a fine column about Buddy Young, the Negro football star who played with the Fleet City Blue-jackets this past season. In view of the fine write-ups he got on the coast don't you think pressure in various forms such as support of action to end Jimcrow in the West Coast pro league by his own famous teammates, petitions of support from veteran organizations, labor unions and others would have done a lot of good in that direction? . . .

"The spring training season for baseball will soon begin and before you know it it will be too late to give any Negroes, besides Jackie Robinson, tryouts for the coming 1946 season. The best time to really crack Jimcrow is before the spring training season starts. Don't wait until the regular season is under way.

"I think the aid of all veteran organizations should be enlisted in this fight. Even the American Legion can be won over. Union groups of course should be active in this as well as all other progressive organizations. You should be able to get the support of Joe Louis, Hank Greenberg, Eleanor Roosevelt, Orson Welles, Frank Sinatra, Henry Wallace and others. Put their statements of support in a pamphlet and go to town. Make 1946 the year. Put the pressure on Chandler and keep it on him and all the baseball owners. Get after Dewey and O'Dwyer and everyone else in public life." 12-15-45

Brother Phillips makes a lot of sense in his letter. We were at fault for not starting the fight against Jimcrow in pro football right after the end of the baseball season and don't intend making that serious mistake again. In fact, the Daily will soon have some things to say and do about the new All America Professional Football Conference which has just gotten a franchise in New York via Dan Topping. Jimmy Crowley is the head of this new league and we are going to find out next

week just where the loop stands in regard to Negro players and what it intends doing about them. 12-15-45

We also agree with Brother Phillips when he says we must start the baseball campaign now, before spring training starts. We are going to do that immediately for we realize quite well that the signing of one man, Jackie Robinson, does not end Jimcrow in baseball.

What the campaign needs, however, if it is to do all these things and bring complete victory, is organization. I think it is high time that real, broad and nationwide committee was formed to fight Jimcrow in sports. This committee will be composed of smaller committees in all the cities and communities where progressive people live.

In this regard I would suggest that Jim Phillips and all other readers who agree this is necessary, begin the organization of neighborhood groups to end Jimcrow in sports. A vast neighborhood movement embracing many thousands of persons in the city would do more than anything else to force Larry MacPhail and Horace Stoneham into action.

In the meantime, you can depend upon the Daily Worker to do what it has always done—lead the fight for full democracy in all sports.





# <sup>The</sup> LOW DOWN New York, N.Y. Jimcrow Gets a Hefty

Belt From Jim Cannon

**Doris Warner**  
By Nat Low

11-21-43  
Jimmy Cannon, four-year Army vet and now sports columnist for the New York Post, did a magnificent anti-Jimcrow piece in yesterday's paper headlined **Army Vets Have New Slant on Negro Rights.**

Cannon starts his column with this: "In our time if you oppose lynchings and belong to a union you are immediately suspected of being a Communist by some citizens of the Republic who believe themselves to be a privileged aristocracy because they were born white. They are the apostles of bigotry who refuse to recognize the presidency of Abraham Lincoln and consider the law that all men are created equal as a radical and unwholesome notion sired by a pack of foreign anarchists."

Further on in the column, Cannon declares, "I am not trying to pass myself off as a deep thinker but I have a theory that the time a lot of us spent in the Army will cure some of us of the false thought that the Negro is a share-cropping tenant in our country. When we, who were enlisted men, were subjected to a caste system on a smaller scale and for a shorter time, we came to despise the Army and its traditions of men and officers."

"Segregated at meals and in dress, manner, housing and recreation, the enlisted man in a milder way felt the humiliation that hounds the Negro through his life's span as a boycotted human being."

"... My ears were sprained with predictions of calamity in the stands every time Joe Louis went to bat against another fighter but I have yet to see any commotion started when the Bomber laid an opponent out. . . . So the fable of the Negro in sports becomes malicious and inaccurate when you recall that such as Louis, Henry Armstrong, Kenny Washington, Brud Holland and Jesse Owen behaves with dignity and greatness. Never have I heard one of these accused of damaging the sport at which he excelled."

We are glad to welcome Jimmy Cannon into that growing fraternity of sports writers who believe in democracy, decency and fair play.

We need more of them in the country and we are delighted to see that the list is growing every day.

11-21-43  
From the teletype machine yesterday, this lovely bit:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (UP).—President Truman will attend the Army-Navy football classic at Philadelphia Dec. 1—and root for both teams.

Mr. Truman will sit on the Army side during the first half and then switch over to the Navy side.

Why not in a dirigible suspended right smack over midfield?

\* Josh Gibson, great Negro catcher of the Homestead Grays who holds the all-time record for homers in one season—75—is seriously ill in a Puerto Rican sanitarium. Gibson took ill as he was preparing for the winter season in San Juan. \*

More on that great lover and admirer of character, Larry MacPhail.

The Yankee boss will go on trial in Bel Air, Md., Monday on two charges of assault and one of disorderly conduct, Circuit Court Judge Frederick Lee Coburne said yesterday.

In case you didn't hear, the great character-loving MacPhail is accused of hitting a woman during the four-hour phone strike on Oct. 5.

It would be terrible, wouldn't it, if This Great Man had to sit out a few weeks in jail?



# NEGROES IN SPORTS

## Sports

Northwest Herald

In the field of sports, more than any other field, the Negro has made history. Not only has he made history as a member of the race, but also has he broken all records made by his predecessors, regardless of race. In track, basketball, football, boxing, baseball, etc., the Negro, given half a chance has excelled.

One of our foremost is Sgt. Joe Louis. Because of his clean character, honesty and simplicity, he has become the idol of both Negro and white America. Now in the army doing his share to win the war, Joe Louis, long time heavyweight champion of the world, does not plan to retire as rumored. His entire boxing record is noeworthy for good sportsmanship, and success. 2-13-45

Another living boxer is Henry "Hammering Hank" Armstrong, the only man ever to hold three boxing championships at the same time. At present, Henry is attempting to make a comeback, and is so far successful.

Among the old timers in the field of boxing who also have made names for themselves is the world famous Jack Johnson, Battling Siki, Panama Al Brown, John Henry Lewis, Tiger Flowers, George Dixon, Joe Gans, Kid Chocolate, etc. Seattle, Wash.

In basketball history was truly made when the famous Globe Trotters was organized. This almost undefeatable basketball team has toured the country for many a season spreading joy from their comic antics, and also admiration for their keen basketball technique. 2-13-45

In track little need be said about Jessie Owens the great Negro star who made Hitler retreat long before the present war, when he won so many laurels and broke so many records at the Olympic games held in Germany in 1936. Tydia Pickett was also a race runner of international renown, running in the Olympics in Germany in 1936. Edward O. Gourdin was a Harvard University winner of the National Penthalon in 1921, as well as Binga Desmon, who with Ralph Metcalf, broke or equalled all sprint records to become champion runners of the world. And we cannot forget Eddie Tolan, that flash from the University of Michigan. Ohio state has turned out

several tracksters in Dave Albritton and Melvin Waller, both in the year 1937. To name all of the Negroes who have made names for themselves would take up a book but we cannot stop without mentioning Woodrow Strode, who attended U.C.L.A. Not only a great track star, he also was a wonder in football.

In baseball we have our numerous Negro ball teams. As yet the Negro is not allowed into the white league, but undaunted has forged ahead and made a league of their own in which the greatest pitcher of all times was developed, Satchel Paige, who in his prime could have beat Dizzy Dean.

We even have a marble shooting champion of the world, Leonard Tyner. 2-13-45

Perhaps Isaac Murphy is the reason that Negroes are not wanted as jockeys at the Kentucky derby. Why? He won it three times, an honor afforded very few men.

In golf, a still more or less exclusive field, Harold Wheeler won the 13th National Open Golf title in 1938 and Mrs. Mel Moye won the 9th Women's National Golf title in 1938.

In football the Negro also has shone. Paul Robeson, All-American back, has a son of this past season who is following in his steps. Buddy Young of Ohio State also made a name for himself this season. Kenny Washington, Woody Strode, Jackie Wilson, are listed among those playing on interracial teams. Our Negro colleges also have developed many fine athletes and we hope that the days will soon come when they will belong to the "Big Ten" or Western conferences and enter into competition with the accredited white colleges in the country.

CINCINNATI, O.  
UNION

AUG 2-1945

### NATIONAL NEGRO SPORTS WEEK

Too little significance is attached to the importance of sports competition by too many influential people. Scant attention is given the fact that history records the decline and fall of many nations due to this same attitude. Ancient Greece and Rome where

sports flourished for centuries, succumbed to soft luxury living and were reduced to impotency as world powers. Scan the list of present-day world powers and you will discover that progressive nations foster intensive sports programs. That the United States has been a sports leader is not coincidental. Yet, there is some indication that unless we continue to expand our athletic programs, we too

will disintegrate. Negroes, as a minority group, fighting for first-class citizenship in a democracy, have contributed more, in proportion to population, than any other group in America. That too is not co-incidental. If we are to gain our political, economic and cultural goals, we must maintain our athletic leadership. We cannot falter in this. We must strengthen our desire for physical competition on the fields of friendly strife as well as our intense longing for cultural recognition.

Lately the wave of juvenile delinquency that has plagued our larger cities causes us to wonder whether we are using to the best advantage our athletic ability. This curiosity led to the formation of National Sports Foundation, an organization composed of former athletes, prominent citizens from all over the country, and directors of agencies dealing with juvenile delinquency problems.

The establishment of National Sports Week (August 5-11th) as an appropriate time for commemorating the deeds of Negro athletes has been acclaimed by leaders as a marvelous way to point-up the necessity for more intensive sports programs among agencies dealing with wayward youths.

"As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined" . . . as we steer our youth into the sports arena, the nation and the race acquires strength and leadership . . . enduring qualities of a vigorous democracy.

\* \* \*

Seeking to raise the moral level among teen-age Negro boys and girls, and to make certain there will be no let-down in the Negroes' interest in sports activity during the post-war period, National Sports Foundation Inc., Washington, D. C. is sponsoring National Negro Sports Week, August 5-11th.

According to Foundation president, Dr. W. Henry Greene, former Howard University football star and prominent Washington physician, the chief purpose of such an annual celebration is to "perpetuate the memory of Negro athletes and to lend substantial aid to those local organizations who are combatting juvenile delinquency through the use of sports."

The Negro has brought considerable prestige to his race and country by his athletic skill, and the Foundation is utilizing this brilliant record to lure youngsters into the sports field. A series of drawing by prominent Negro artists depicting the careers of famous Negro athletes, and a brochure emphasizing the need for a more active sports program, are being distributed to Junior Police Corps, Settlement Houses, Canteen Centers, YM and YWCA's in sixty-two thickly populated Negro communities.

No tie-ups with national advertisers is contemplated for this year. A commemorative stamp is being widely distributed, and meetings with prominent athletes as guest speakers at Boys Clubs are being arranged in lieu of a scheduled Sports Jamboree, which has been tabooed by ODT order.

Monday to See Start  
Of Negro Sports' Week  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
2-4-45  
J. R. R. R.

Seeking to raise the moral level among teen-age Negro boys and girls, and to make certain there will be no let-down in the Negroes' interest in sports activity during the post-war period, National Sports Foundation Inc., Washington, D. C. is sponsoring National Negro Sports Week, August 5 to 11.

According to Foundation president, Dr. W. Henry Greene, former Howard University football star and prominent Washington physician, the chief purpose of such an annual celebration is to "perpetuate the memory of Negro athletes and to lend substantial aid to those local organizations who are combatting juvenile delinquency through the use of sports."

The Negro has brought considerable prestige to his race and country by his athletic skill, and the Foundation is utilizing this brilliant record to lure youngsters into the

sports field. A series of drawings by prominent Negro artists depicting the careers of famous Negro athletes, and a brochure emphasizing the need for a more active sports program, are being distributed to Junior Police Corps, Settlement Houses, Canteen Centers, YM and YWCA's in 62 thickly populated Negro communities.

2-4-45



# Change the World

*Daily Worker New York, New York*

**Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers has just signed a Negro ball player for his team is a bit of news that gladdens many hearts made sick and sad by the racial fascism growing rapidly today.**

Sometimes, when you hear these Bilbos and Rankins sounding off, you get the feeling that America must be heading for hell in a fascist rocket.

On the other hand, however, desperate, crazy or extreme reaction becomes, the American people still keep on inching along. This baseball victory against Jimcrowism may not sound like much to a cloistered philosopher brooding over fascism in the library.

But the signing of Jacky Robinson is a strong signal in the hurricane of history. It shows that there are winds blowing in America other than the fascist hot air and poison.

This victory should demonstrate to Communists something forgotten in recent years under Browder's leadership. We had stopped making crusades. We became a tail to the liberal kite. We gave up our historic role of social pioneering. Fortunately our campaign to end Jimcrow in baseball was not interrupted.

Baseball is a world of popular entertainment  
**by Mike Gold**

ment more deeply important in the life of the American masses than art, science, literature and boogie-woogie. I don't know how many millions follow the sport, but the legendry of baseball is sure to affect every branch of American culture and mass thinking.

**I**F JIMCROW is cracked in baseball it may have more of an effect, I believe, than even the singing of Marian Anderson or Paul Robeson.

And if this great medieval fortress of Jimcrowism has been breached, let all good Americans know that the Communists were the first to start the fight.

It was Lester Rodney, then sports editor of the Daily Worker, who started the campaign something like ten years ago.

Lester, a smart, bespectacled, cigar-smoking young New Yorker, had a heart as big as a whale. He was one of the best sports experts in the land. He was also a Jew and a Communist. The horrors of Jimcrowism hurt him as keenly as did the dirty sadism of anti-Semites of New York and Berlin.

So Lester, in his own department, went to town on Jimcrowism in baseball; but with a passion, high enthusiasm and journalistic skill that are remembered.

He put the campaign across, even despite our sadly limited circulation and even sadder

sectarianism. It broke finally into the national headlines.

Rodney has been in the U.S. Army these past three years. Late reports from him indicate he is stranded on some remote Pacific island, without books, papers, decent food or water, nothing but a terrible sun and a God-forsaken isolation. He says he is depressed.

But he has just received a telegram from New York that must be lighting up his lonesome jail. News of the first great victory against baseball Jimcrow has been wired to him.

**I** HOPE this lesson will teach America that the Communists are useful citizens who form the core of a healthy democracy.

I hope this victory will gladden the lonesome days and nights of Lester Rodney and make him remember that his life has been important in the anti-fascist struggle. We owe a big bouquet to Lester Rodney.

I hope this crack in the Jimcrow barricade will also remind all Communists that the more we share the life of our land, the more effective become our labors for a free and prosperous America. We must crusade and fight for justice, even if we are alone. We must never cease to be that "nerve over which oppression's pains are felt, otherwise unrecorded." We must keep on fighting until Jimcrow is ruined, finished, destroyed in every dirty root and fibre.

## Buddy Young Best Individual Star of '45; Signing of Robinson "Biggest Surprise"

By SAM LACY  
AFRO Sports Editor

BALTIMORE.

The performance of Claude (Buddy) Young, former University of Illinois football and track star, was the best individual effort of the 1945 year in sports, according to a national poll of sports writers.

The poll, conducted by the AFRO, reveals that Young's football playing with the Fleet City Bluejackets, U.S. Navy eleven, topped the work of individual athletes in any other branch of sport during the season.

The same poll, asking for opinions as to the year's biggest surprise, resulted in a virtual landslide for the signing of Jackie Robinson as the first colored player to enter organized baseball. Robinson is slated to join the Montreal (Canada) Royals of the International League, a farm team of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Young climaxed a brilliant season with the Tars by running for three touchdowns against the El

## Baseball Jimcrow Cracked— A Lesson and Tribute to Communists

Toro Marines the first three times he got his hands on the ball.

Although, he didn't start the game, Young was sent in to relieve the injured Fleet City safety man. According to Coach Jim Reinhart, the Marines "made the mistake of punting to Buddy, and he ran it back 88 yards for a touchdown."

Reinhart, telling about the game recently, went on: "We put him back in a few minutes later when the Marines were kicking off, and they stupidly kicked to him again. He ran that one for 97 yards and a touchdown. A bit later, he ran 30 yards to the goal from scrimmage."

Billy Fox, Philadelphia lightweight, who returned to the ring to continue an unbroken string of victories, was given a slight edge over George Jefferson, Cleveland Buckeye pitcher, for second among the individual performers.

**Taliaferro Mentioned**  
Jefferson capped a season in which he won 15 league games against one loss, by blanking the Homestead Grays in the colored world series.

George Taliaferro's starring role with the championship Indiana University eleven, Charley Price's sensational play for iVirginia title-

sensational play for Virginia State College's CIAA titleholders, and Bill Bass's leadership of the crack Tennessee State College gridders were hailed as likely prospect for the honor.

Following in the wake of the "surprise" signing of Jackie Robinson were the Buckeyes' winning of four straight games from the Grays to take the world series; Wiley College's sterling play on the gridiron; Tuskegee Institute's copping of the national women's track and field championship with only five competitors, and Clark College's comeback after being the doormat of its conference in 1943 and 1944. Clark lost but two games in 1945, one to Wilberforce, Mid-West champs, and the other to Florida, SIAC titlists; in the final seconds of play.

## Negro Athletes Set Marks Whites Cannot Surpass

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Negroes have erected color lines in sports—color lines of performance, declares Hy Turkin, New York Daily News sports writer, in an article, "Brown Sportsman," in the current Ebony Magazine.

Citing the record books, Turkin proves that there are several "color lines" which have never been surpassed by anyone but Negroes. No white man has ever broad jumped over 26 feet, Turkin pointed out, but two Negroes, Jesse Owens and Eulace Peacock have exceeded that distance.

In the boxing world only one man ever held three world titles simultaneously—Henry Armstrong—and only one heavyweight ever defended his title more than 20 times—Joe Louis.

Turkin also pays tribute to Isaac Murphy, first jockey to ride three Kentucky Derby winners, and Josh Gibson, the first ball player to hit a homer into the Yankee Stadium left field bleachers.





# Discrimination Against Pro Athletes Will End

Atlanta Constitution  
Atlanta, Ga. By WALTER BYERS

United Press Staff Correspondent.

CHICAGO, May 3.—(UP)—Baseball's new commissioner, Sen. Albert (Happy) Chandler, said today he had been advised by the War Department that there would be no further tendency on the part of local draft boards to reclassify professional athletes from 4-F into 1-A, "simply because they are athletes."

Revealing that the War Department had ordered a complete study of the drafting of professional athletes to stamp out any unfairness which may have developed, Chandler said that officials in Washington had told him they might have been influenced into reclassifying some 4-Fs into 1-A.

## ASKED INVESTIGATION

Any tendency in that direction already has been stopped, however, he said.

Shortly after his election as commissioner nine days ago, Chandler said he would demand an investigation of instances in which baseball players had been discriminated against by draft boards.

He said he had discussed the problem with President Truman and that the chief executive had "promised to look into the matter."

"Just because a man is able to play two hours at a certain sport is no indication that he is fit for military service," Chandler said.

Chandler said he learned of the War Department's move through his senatorial secretary, Walter W. Mulbry, who will become secretary-treasurer to the Kentucky senator when he takes office as commissioner.

"The War Department Tuesday ordered the whole situation concerning professional athletes reviewed," Chandler said.

## ADMITS DISCRIMINATION

Chandler said Mulbry informed him that the War Department admits that some professional athletes probably have been reclassified from 4-F to 1-A "because of no other reason than that they are pro athletes."

According to present selective service procedure, whenever a professional athlete is deferred by his local draft board the case is referred to Washington for review. There have been several incidents in which an athlete, originally deferred by his local draft board, has been classified 1-A by the War Department in Washington. One of the most recent cases is Fritz Ostermueller, Pittsburgh Pirate pitcher.

It is this procedure about which Mulbry said the War Department is concerned.

## MOST PAPERS AGREE

In New York, most of the city's papers supported the signing of Robinson, although the New York Times was cold and antagonistic. PM's Joe Cumiskey went all out (he's been active in the fight for a long time) and Al Laney, sports columnist of the Herald-Tribune, wrote a stirring sympathetic article.

son is a dark-skinned American and baseball, with blind and ignorant prejudice, has discriminated against him and his kind.

"There seems to be a healthy scepticism about the sincerity of Rickey in this move, he being known to the sports pages as the Devious Deacon, but Rickey, whatever one may feel about him, never has been accused of stupid-

# Won't Fight Robinson Signing, Says Baird, Negro Team Owner

The Daily Worker New York, New York  
10-26-45  
By PHIL GORDON

Saying that the Associated Press had misquoted him, Tom Baird, owner of the Kansas City Monarchs, yesterday stated he would not contest the Dodgers' signing of Jackie Robinson who played with the Monarchs last season.

In a telegram to the Pittsburgh Courier, which relayed it to the Dodgers, Baird said, "Sorry my interview with Associated Press relative to Jackie Robinson misquoted, also misinterpreted. We would not do anything in any way to impede the advancement of any Negro ball player nor would we do anything to keep any Negro ball players nor would we do anything to keep any Negro ball player out of the white major leagues."

This takes the wind out of the sails of those who hoped to stymie the signing of Robinson by making it a legal case between the Negro team and the Dodgers.

## YORK SAYS "O. K."

Yesterday, comments from all parts of the country kept pouring in.

Rudy York, first baseman of the world champion Detroit Tigers said, "I wish him all the luck in the world and hope he makes good."

J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American League hailed the event. "We're very happy to see him get a break. We're proud of it."

Ray Dumont, president of the National Baseball Congress, said he believed the large number of Negro performers on service teams during the war period was responsible for the signing of Robinson. He noted that nearly one-half of the service teams had one or more Negro players on their rosters.

The Post gave it top play, as did the Mirror, the News and the Tribune. The Sun buried it on the bottom of its sports page, hoping the trifle with the aspirations of millions of Americans."

Larry MacPhail "would blast Rickey's raiding of the Negro leagues."

The World-Telegram likewise gave it top play, running a straight story based on an interview with Branch Rickey and, bless my heart, Joe Williams wrote a column on it in which he said, "The world does move, you know, and sooner or later there had to be a break in the situation. With proper handling much good can come of it. . . . However, down at the bottom of the column he warned against the pressure groups, social frauds and political demagogues," an obvious reference in the great progressive movement which has been fighting the ban for years.

## More on Robinson Signing

Daily Worker  
By PHIL GORDON

We are still receiving clippings from papers all over the country with comments on the signing of Jackie Robinson by the Brooklyn Dodger farm teams in Montreal. Latest clippings from Boston and Winston-Salem, North Carolina, show that the response has been amazingly positive.

Dave Egan, sports editor and columnist of the Boston Daily Record wrote: "A new day, all golden and blue with new hope, dawned yesterday for many millions of Americans when it was announced that Jackie Robinson had been signed to a contract by the Brooklyn Dodgers. He is a college graduate. He is a magnificent athlete. He is an honorably discharged veteran. And there would be nothing newsworthy in this, except that Robin-

The Boston Globe said, "No Negro was questioned too closely when he was invited to put on the United States uniform to fight for democracy and the Four Freedoms. Why should the question be brought up when some members of the Negro race desire a chance to put on a big league uniform?"

The Winston-Salem Journal said editorially of the Robinson signing, "It is to be hoped that a way will be found to give Negro baseball players an ample opportunity to make the most of their talents. Equality of opportunity regardless of race, birth or group is the essence of the type of democracy we are so anxious to see prevail in America."

## The Fight to End Jim Crow in Baseball

Editor, Daily Worker:  
O.K., I take 'em back. Every darned word I've ever said agin' them Dodgers, I take 'em back. I've only bouquets for the Club that's sent such a powerful body blow smashing into Jimcrow.

Congratulations to you and your Staff for the splendid work that's resulted in this people's victory! Congratulations to every progressive man, woman and child who has played a part in making baseball a truly American game! Congratulations to Jackie Robinson, the first Negro to play in organized baseball. 11-1-45

Now c'mon all you baseball fans. Let's write to Branch Rickey. Let's applaud him for taking this first big step. Let's keep up the fight against Jimcrow in baseball by writing thousands of letters to every major baseball club to follow the example set by the Dodgers. Let's pledge to continue the fight until the day comes when every Negro player with "big league" potentialities will be hired.

Nat Low's column of Oct. 25 on this victory was a honey. Nice work, pals! 11-1-45

SYLVIA SMITH.

Manhattan.



## FIRST INNING



### Mixed N. Y. Clubs Inevitable—Rickey

Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, yesterday said, "The time is nearing when every professional baseball club operating in the State of New York will be forced to sign Negro players."

Rickey was referring to the Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination law which was passed by the state legislature last summer and which went into effect July 1.

In an interview with sports writers, Rickey said he was interested in some 12 or 13 other Negro players who have been scouted by the Dodgers. He said Robinson would report at the Dodger training camp in Florida next spring.

## Baseball's Color Line Continued

I have been deluged—well, I've had three or four—with letters and wires, yet, about the first-this and the first-that in the fight to break organized baseball's color line.

When our editorial page carried a Hats Off to this guy Cummiskey the other day, a lot of fellows who also were in the fight got sore, took pen in fist, and wrote in and said, in effect, what the hell goes?

First, that little nod to Cummis-



key came at the suggestion of a all the I-wuz-first guys had better national officer of the YMCA. And, see to it that he gets a fair shake. second, this guy Cummiskey says The fact that one of the greatest hurra, come on aboard, there's figures baseball ever has had—and room for everyone. 11-4-45 who but Branch Rickey?—has an-

I have a wire from King Lear, nounced the signing of Robinson station WPEN (Philly), saying isn't the end of this story. that he was the first to have Jackie Robinson, the new Negro shortstop signed for Montreal by Branch Rickey, on the air. Bill Stern is supposed to have had him, too, and so is Bert Lee (WHN).

So what? Let's not get lost in a maze of I-wuz-there-firsts. Let's say there's enough of Robinson to go around everywhere. And, above all, let's not have the I-wuz-firsts become the lasts next March when the real tell will take place in Day-

tona Beach.

Then, more than the exploitation value as of now, is when the guy will need the most help. Not in ability, because Rickey's scouts attest he has that, and to spare.

But in understanding, and tolerance and, well, help—that's when Robinson could use a little of his side of the story, on the air and in the newspapers. That's when we-

is nothing short of revolution in the eyes of some owners. N.Y.

Rickey has told me that his was no gesture. He said he knows that some day it had to come and that now is the most acceptable time. There have been some and there will be more recriminations. N.Y.

Fellows in baseball who know him—and call him—the shrewdest and farthest-seeing of them all on every other score now give him the cold fish stare and the icy nod.

"I can stand that," said Rickey, "if the boy gets his chance."

I, too, have had letters, calling me this and that and saying that the whole situation is impossible, is beyond the power of solution. People are people, the letter ran, and you just can't change them over night.

Maybe not, but I should repeat again that this is not an overnight proposition. Rickey scouted for three years to come up with Robbie. Along the way, Joe Bostic of People's Voice and Nat Low of the Worker were in there pitching.

But, in my book, they weren't always pitching strikes. Bostic's march on Bear Mountain, for example, was an arrogant thing to do and had it been two white kids he brought up there to demand a try out, he'd have been brushed off—but good, and but correctly.

Low's attack was okay in spots, but it always was threaded through with a chip-on-shoulder, ya-big-bully-you sort of attitude. I always have said—and I repeat now—it's not a matter calling for belligerence and fist-waving and eloquent speech.

Rather, it's the problem for the understanding heart, for the men whose minds aren't warped with the silly, prejudiced racial hates—be they white or black, Protestant, Catholic, or Jew.

They're saying that Robinson must rise or fall on his ability. That's true. But I add that baseball, too, must rise or fall on how he gets his chance. This is the United States, isn't it? The home of the brave and the land of the free. You'd be surprised how we sometimes have to prove it.

—JOE CUMMISKEY.

It's really only the beginning. Rickey's move to hire Robinson took more than a casual nod of the head. Rickey has been around the hardheads and mossbacks (some of them are, you know) too long to realize that everything will be sweetness and light and the great brotherhood of man.

He hopes—and fervently—that it will be that way, but hoping and having are two separate things and the evolution he finally has started



# Negro athletes

## roster of champions

By NAT LOW

LAST week, Congressman Vito Marcantonio of New York introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives calling for an investigation of Jim Crow in baseball. Said Rep. Marcantonio: "Baseball is America's greatest sport and it's silly to pretend that Negroes are not among the best players, when we have a Negro, Joe Louis, as our boxing champion, and such men as Jesse Owens in track and Paul Robeson in football."

Congressman Marcantonio was not only eminently correct, as usual, but he was also exposing the hypocrisy of some of the star-spangled baseball phonies who utter words about democracy but who prevent democracy from operating in our National Pastime.

Branch Rickey, for instance. The Great Mahatma of the Brooklyn Dodgers claims he's never seen a Negro player good enough to play in the majors! This from a man whose team staggered in to a miserable seventh place finish last year long and will probably wind up deep in the sub-cellar this year.

### Champions In Many Fields

Even a cursory knowledge of sports in America will give the lie to this double-talk about the inability of Negro athletes to make the majors. The history of American sports is inseparable from the history of Negro athletes. Indeed, in practically every sport in which they have been allowed to participate, the Negro athlete has been outstanding.

The Negro people have produced dozens of champions in boxing, track, football and basketball. Probably the greatest fighter of history is Joe Louis. Probably the greatest runner of

history is Jesse Owens. And one of the greatest football players of all time is Paul Robeson—the famed "Rube of Rutgers" whom no less an authority than Lou Little, Columbia coach, calls the "greatest end ever to play the game."

The names of Negro athletes in all sports are legend. They have enriched our sports life, have set most of our world records, have established new heights of sportsmanship and fair play.

Is it at all logical that the people who produced the Louis, Owens, Robesons have not produced great baseball players as well? Is there some curious and unfathomable difference between these other sports and baseball?

Obviously not and the average baseball player, writer and fan will tell you that in no uncertain terms.

There have not been hundreds of Negro baseball players who could make the major leagues but there have been some who are the equal, and the superiors, of the games most renowned heroes — the Babe Ruths, Ty Cobb, Walter Johnsons.

Josh Gibson, the mighty catcher of the Homestead Grays, still holds the record for hitting the longest home run in baseball history—a mammoth blow that carried more than 560 feet. And in 1940 he hit 75 homers. No less a personage than Walter Johnson, the famed Big Train of major league baseball, says of Gibson: "He is by far the best hitter I have ever seen and if he were up for sale would get no less than \$250,000." Remember, please, that Johnson is a southerner.

Tap on Baseball Diamond

Of Satchel Paige, the skinny mound genius, so much has already been written in newspapers and magazines that any further comment would seem useless. Paige, who has beaten almost every white major league team he has ever faced—and he's

played dozens of them—would probably have won 30 games a year in the big leagues. Of him, Dizzy Dean, the old gashouser who hurled the St. Louis Cardinals to the pennant and the World Series says: "Paige is the best pitcher I ever saw or heard about. . . . Yes, even better than ol' Diz himself."

I could fill a dozen of these pages with statements made by white major league players about the talents of Negro diamond stars. The men who have acclaimed the genius of Negro aces include Lou Gehrig, Carl Hubbell, Bucky Walters, Jimmy Dykes, Bill McKechnie, Augie Galan, Stan Hack, Mickey Owen, Petey Reiser, Arkie Vaughan, Jimmy Foxx, Hank Greenberg and others. It reads like a who's who in baseball.

Negroes have never been given an opportunity to play major league baseball—but what of the others sports in which Negro athletes have participated? Let us see how they have fared.

Start with boxing. If one were to name the top triumvirate of the sport there can be little question that Joe Louis, Joe Gans and Henry Armstrong would be right there. Negro fighters have held the world championship in every division, some of them holding two titles at once and one of them Armstrong, holding THREE simultaneously.

### Some Negro Ring Champs

Negro champs in the past have been Gans, George Dixon (bantamweight and featherweight), Jack Johnson (heavyweight), Kid Chocolate (lightweight), Louis (heavyweight), Armstrong (featherweight, lightweight and welterweight), John Henry Lewis (light-heavyweight), Chalky Wright (featherweight), Beau Jack (lightweight) and Bob Montgomery (lightweight).

This amazing roster of champions does not include legions of

magnificent Negro boxers who were never given a crack at the title. The list is long and glorious, starting with Peter Jackson at the end of the 19th Century and carrying through Sam Langford, Harry Wills, Al Brown, Tiger Flowers, Battling Siki and Joe Jeannette. This is simply part of the list.

In football there have likewise been champions—All-Americans at almost every position. Can anyone speak of football greats without immediately mentioning the names of Fritz Pollard (Brown), Paul Robeson (Rutgers) and Kenny Washington (UCLA). Pollard and Robeson were the first Negroes to be named to Walter Camp's famous All-America teams and in their wake came hundreds of brilliant gridiron warriors who won plaudits from the entire sports world as well as from their opponents.

Can we forget Wilmedth Sidat-Singh of Syracuse, who became one of the first athletes to die in this war when as an Air Corps Lieutenant he crashed into Lake Huron two years ago? Or incomparable Brud Holland of Cornell, All-America for two successive years, 1938 and '39, and the greatest exponent of the end-around play since the days of his Negro predecessor, Robeson? Or the lightning fast Bernie Jefferson of Northwestern, All-America triple-threat back? Or Charlie Drew of Amherst, or powerful, driving Woody Strode of UCAL, or Captain Homer Harris of Iowa, or Len Bates of NYU, or Horace Bell of Minnesota, or Ed Williams of NYU, or just last season's magnificent star, Claude "Buddy" Young of Illinois who broke Red Grange's touchdown record in his first year as a gridder?

### Track Leaders

And when the list of track and field greats is made up, whose name leads all the rest? None other than Jesse Owens, who almost single-handedly led the American team to victory in the Berlin Olympic games of 1936 by winning the hundred and two-hundred-yard dashes and the broad jump to become the first man in the long history of the Olympics to do so.

Owens is tops, of course, but then there are men such as Long John Woodruff, Olympic champ and world record holder; Dave Albritton; the late great Johnny

Borican; Ed Gordon; Eulace Pea-



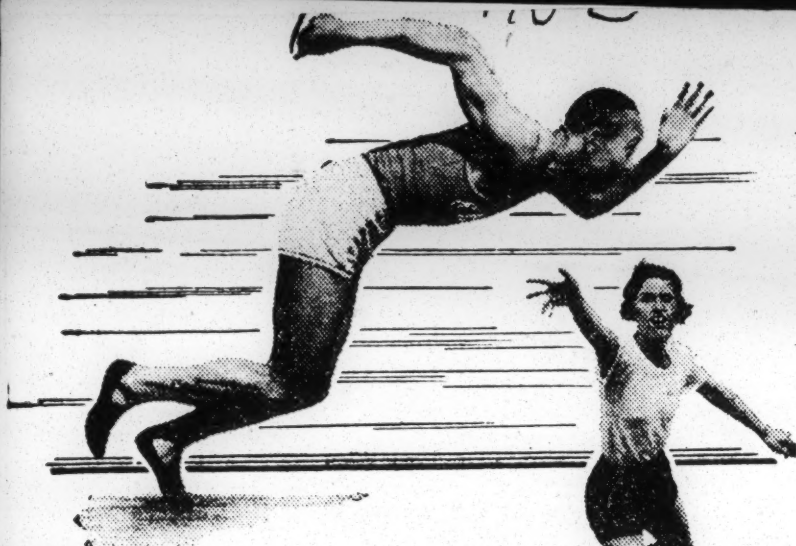
cock; Ed Burke; Barney Ewell; Ed Conwell; Jimmy Herbert; Ed Dugger; Frank Dixon; Buddy Young; Herb Thompson; Herb McKinley and literally hundreds of others who have left permanent niches in the sport's hall of fame.

In every democratic sport the respect is fellow ath-

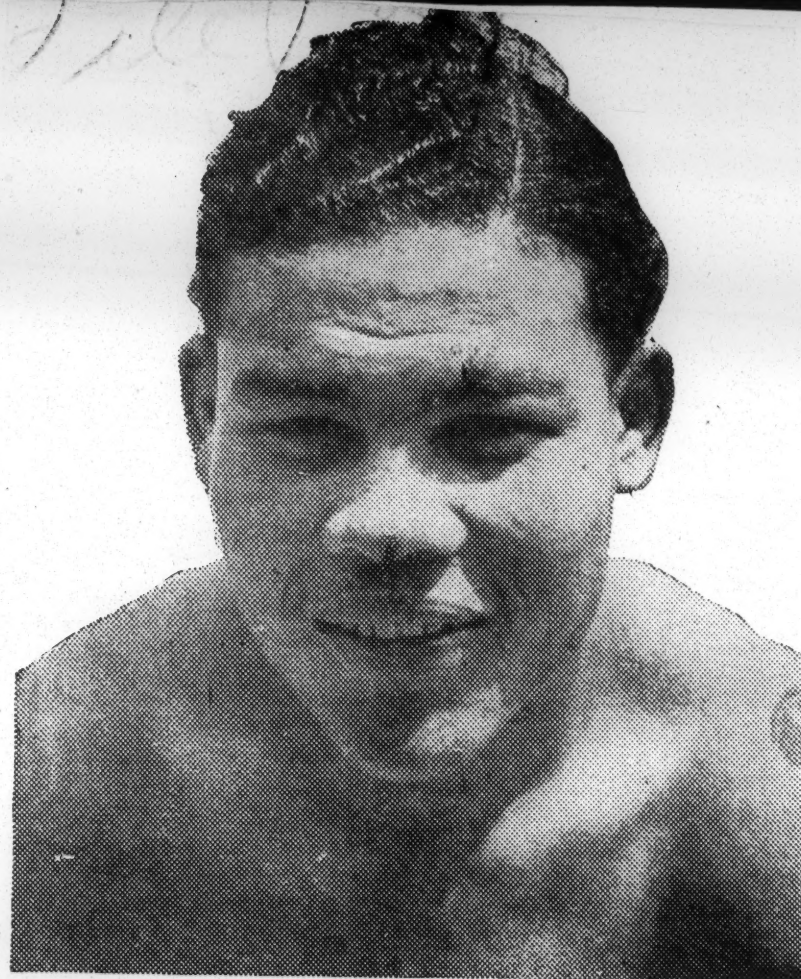
great National and will open its layers. The coun- the thousands s. at the fighting

P. de try of fr





JESSE OWENS, top-flight star of the last Olympics is shown in streamlined form above. Another Negro track star, Miss Helen Stephens, is shown making the shot put.



JOE LOUIS in his ring days before he donned Uncle Sam's fighting togs. The Champ is still meeting all comers in exhibition fights for soldiers.

5-6-45

Henry Armstrong (left), top man in the ring, holder of three titles simultaneously in one year. He won the featherweight title in 1938 from Peter Sarron; took the welterweight from Barney Ross, then went to lightweight and took that crown from Lou Ambers.

Satchel Paige (right) "is the best pitcher I ever saw or heard about. . . . Yes, even better than ol' Diz himself," said Dizzy Dean.





# '44 Champs AFRO-AMERICAN at a Glance

1-6-45

A concise picture of the 1944 sports calendar, with champions listed, appears as follows:

## BASEBALL

Negro National League—Homestead Grays  
Negro American League—Birmingham Black Barons  
World Series—Homestead Grays  
NNL Individual Batting—Frank Austin, Phila. Stars  
NAL Individual Batting — Jim Smith, Chicago Giants

## BASKETBALL

Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Asso.—Lincoln University  
Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Asso.—Tuskegee (winner of tournament)

## TRACK AND FIELD

National AAU Outdoor Champions  
100-meter dash—Buddy Young, Illinois *Bait. Md.*  
400-meter run—Elmore Harris, Morgan  
800-meter run—Bob Kelley, Illinois  
20-meter low hurdles—Elmore Harris

Hop, Step, Jump—Sgt. Don Barksdale, Camp Lee  
Pentathlon — Eulace Peacock, USCG

National AAU Indoor Champions  
60-yard dash—Ed Conwell, New York University

60-yard high hurdles—Ed Dugger, Dayton, Ohio  
60-yard low hurdles—Ed Dugger  
High jump—Dave Albritton (tie), Dayton, Ohio  
Broad Jump—Barney Ewell, Camp Lee

National Women's Champions  
50-meter dash—Alice Coachman, Tuskegee Institute  
80-meter hurdles—Lillie Purifoy, Tuskegee Institute  
High Jump—Alice Coachman

Discuss Throw—Hattie Turner, Tuskegee Institute

Baseball Throw—Hattie Turner

## FOOTBALL

Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Assn.—Morgan College  
Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Asso.—Tuskegee

Big Ten—Ohio State (Bill Willis, Matt Brown, Charley Jackson)

## BOXING

Heavyweight—Joe Louis (title frozen)

Lightweight—Bob Montgomery

Golden Gloves  
175-pound—Ray Standifer, Cleveland

126-pound—Major Jones, Kansas City, Mo.

112-pound — Cecil Shoonmaker, NYC.

## GOLF

No National Tourney

## TENNIS

National Men's Singles — Pvt. Lloyd C. Scott, Prairie View, Texas

National Women's Singles — Miss Roumania Peters, Tuskegee Institute

National Junior Singles — Carl Williams, Orangeburg, S.C.

National Boys' Singles — Clyde Freeman, Jr., Washington, D.C.

National Girls' Singles — Althea Gibson, NYC

National Men's Doubles—Howard Minis and Ronald Fieulleteau, Tuskegee, Ala.

National Mixed Doubles—Delbert Russell and Lillian Van Buren, Detroit, Mich.

National Women's Doubles—Roumania and Margaret Peters, Washington, D.C.

National Veterans' Singles—John Garrett, Tuskegee

National Junior Doubles — Carl Williams and Franklin Bailey, Orangeburg, S.C.

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — As the season of 1944 slips into the limbo of eternity, we review it with comfort.

Fighting men, nurses, WACs, WAVES, plant-workers, war-installation employees, chaplains, medics, technicians, etc., found a panacea for jaded and worn nerves via the broad field of sports contribution.

As always, America's small army of Negro contributors to the overall picture turned in a mighty terrific job.

## GENTLEMAN FROM ALABAMA

Incomparable Sgt. Joe Louis, world champion heavyweight boxer, was a goodwill ambassador with portfolio second to none I can think of during 1944. In the midst of total war, the drawing Alabamian was a symbol, year an inspiration to millions of Americans of all colors and creeds, as well as many millions more on the battlefronts of continental Europe. Joe never grew faint or weary a single step of the way.

He boxed for rehabilitated warriors behind the lines. Flew from camp to camp as a teacher, referee and all-around inspiration to men in khaki who had never known him intimately before. Camp shows, canteens, hospitals, all saw the illustrious Brown Bomber as a sort of male Flo Nightingale. A man whose touch and words to bullet-shattered fellows humans was unbelievably soft, by contrast to his willer tactics once the bell clangs starting a ring contest. His actions overshadowed the efforts of other sport luminaries.

## IN EXHIBITIONS

In November, the powers that be agreed that the property-poor heavyweight boxing king should be given an opportunity to replenish his pocketbook. He demon-bread winner.

strated beyond cavil that were the bloody mess to end in early '45, no man on the fistic horizon would stand much of a chance with him. His punching was terrific despite the burden of 14 ounce pillows on his rock-ribbed maulies.

His boxing, while not up to championship days standard, impressed his exhibition opponents as well as boxing experts who saw him in action. The bronze giant from the canebrakes of Alabama spearheaded the drive of his race for justice and recognition on the sports as well as all other fronts.

## PARADE OF RING STARS

The foremost boxer, black or white, during the past season as I saw it was Cleveland's Jimmy Bivins. Well educated, a commercial artist of real promise, we would call him the best 175 pounder to show his wares since the pristine greatness of Kid Norfolk. That is turning back the clock exactly 24 years and giving Bivins ranking over ring immortals in that division like Slattery, McTeague, Delaney, Berlanbach, John Henry Lewis, Tiger Fox Fox, et al. But he richly deserves it on his 1944 record alone. Until his draft board gave him a number, he was the best box-office magnet in Ohio fight circles. They raved about Baksi, Mauriello, Savold, Lee Q. Murray, Melio Bettina, Lee Oma and the rejuvenated Lou Nova. I personally thought Bivins much smarter than any of the aforementioned galaxy of leather-pushers.

## BEATS MURRAY

His two cat-and-dog fights with thunderous punching Lee Q. Murray last year were ring sagas. They recalled the bruising bloody mills of the earlier Horton law days like Nelson and Joe Gans; the Frawley Law contests between Ad Wolgast and Mexican Joe Rivers; our own Jack Delaney-Paul Berlenbach classics of grit and stamina under Mayor Jimmy Walker's omnibus legalizing the sport in the Empire state.

Louis' handlers appeared little inclined for the champ to mix it with southpaw Melio Bettina. Jimmy Bivins took the tough Italian guy on with no questions asked. He was definitely a great little fellow. The U. S. army grabbed such super-dupers as Ray (Sugar) Robinson, Champs Beau Jack and Robert (Bobcat) Montgomery, Sgt. Jackie (California) Robinson, and many others. of his professional career I have nicknamed "uncrowned welterweight champion, received a discharge from the armed forces and picked up the loose ends where he left off. Few men scaling up to 165 pounds stands a ghost of a chance with George Gainsford's

## COLOSSAL MISTAKE

I've always claimed that it was a colossal mistake to have given Jake LaMotta a chance to put the one blott on Ray's record. LaMotta, a roughhouse Bronxite, should have been fed to Bivins by the same yardstick measuring which saw Robinson in there with him. The fact that Robinson licked LaMotta decisively in one of their jousts doesn't figure in my cold reasoning.

## NATIONAL AAU CHAMPS

As in football, the name of Claude (Buddy) Young was one to conjure with in the realm of track and field. The personable Illinois frosh also trifled the track work by winning the 100 yard title June 18, at Randall's Island stadium, New York City. Despite a three-ring circus start which saw the all Negro finalists make false breaks, the chunky comet of the cinderpath added his name to the list of National and American sprinting champions.

Elmore Harris, smooth-striding "brownie" from Morgan State Teachers college, rocketed from obscurity to track stardom that same sultry afternoon. All Harris did was to win the 440 yard dash and the low hurdles, thus becoming the sole double-ply winner at the National AAU championships. Eddie Conwell, of the N. Y. Pioneer club, a Negro organization, lost the national 200 meter title by inches to Texas Charlie (white) Parker. Conwell, chosen track captain of the New York university squad, was a grand performer thruout 1944 and we were sorry to see him lose a race, that he figured to win hands down. Paul Robeson Jr., gridiron potential, proved his mettle by high-jumping 6 feet 4 inches to place in this event at the Nationals.

## A REAL CHIP

Truly, a real chip off the old block if ever we recognized one. Basketball found the "Rens" losing (believe it or not) their first opening-season game in seven years during the month of December. The sparkling SPHAS, (Philly Hebrews) whipped a fine team by the score of 57-52 at Renaissance casino.

Billboards saw George Hairston, Williamson, W. Va., adorn the mantle once reserved for the shoulders of James Evans, perennial Negro worlds champion pocket-billiards exponent. Space does not permit us to elaborate upon the Negro jockeys, women athletes at Tuskegee and other schools, juvenile sports, YMCA sports, handball, swimming, weight lifting, cricket, tennis, skating, bicycling, golf, winter sports, et al.

## Beau Jack Winner Over

*The Afro-American*  
**Joyce as Garden Fans Boo**  
*Baltimore, Md.*

Former Lightweight Champ Impresses AFRO in First Fight After Long Army Layoff

By SAM LACY  
AFRO Sports Editor

NEW YORK—Beau Jack, former lightweight champion of the world, defeated Willie Joyce of Gary, Ind., in 10 torrid sessions at Madison Square Garden last Friday night.

The verdict, voted unanimously by the referee and two judges, soundly booed by the 16,231 customers who paid a gross gate of \$70,071, but as the AFRO viewed it the dissenters, for the most a seven-pound weight advantage, were disgruntled gamblers who part, were the AFRO score-card did evening. While the Beau as wide as mar-punches, forced the fighting and not give the

The former champion, holding a seven-pound weight advantage, was the aggressor throughout the fight. He landed the harder punches, forced the fighting and

The Beau took the second and third although Joyce's left hand found its mark and somewhat relieved the one-sidedness that prevailed in the first round. Jack continued to stalk his opponent, reaching him repeatedly with his two best blows, a right uppercut and a left hook.

Beau Jack, showing signs of being weary, lost the fourth to the constant peppering of the Joyce left, which kept pecking at the injured eye of the Beau. The Indianan rallied in the late stages of the fifth, getting over two healthy right crosses to off-set the lead Beau had won earlier.

Joyce changed his tactics in the sixth. He began countering Jack's leads and the Beau, off on his timing, was victimized to the point of getting no better than a draw in the seventh and eighth rounds. In the opening minutes of the action-packed battle, Joyce with a sizzling uppercut, which spun the lighter boxer completely around. He refused to go down, however.

forcing the latter to slug with him. In this department, the shifty Willie was no match for his busy opponent. In the tenth, Willie took a right uppercut on the chin which shook him perceptibly but he recovered sufficiently to be punching it out at the final bell.





# SURVEYING THE SPORTS FRONT

Memphis World  
By Joel W. Smith

1-2-45

## A REVIEW OF SPORTS IN 1944

As we ring down the curtain on 1944, a review of sports is in order, but before going back over the season we must direct the attention of sports fans to the annual bowl games. Tuskegee plays Tennessee State in the Vulcan Bowl Classic, at Birmingham in what promises to be a real grid thriller. Tied-up in other New Years' Day bowl games will be Texas College and A. and T. College in the "Flower Bowl" at Jacksonville; Wiley and Prairie View, at Houston; and Bethune Cookman and Edward Waters in a newly inaugurated bowl game at Miami.

### FOOTBALL

The Florida A and M College Rattlers annexed the 1944 championship in the Southern Conference, with a sensational victory over the Tuskegee Golden Tigers. Several sepia performers broke into the limelight on various college teams throughout the country. Very special mention, however, should be made of Claude "Buddy" Young, of Illini and Wm. "Bill" Willis, of Ohio State, who made several mythical all-American selections, together with Paul Patterson, Ohio State; Eugene Derricotte, Michigan; and Paul Robeson, of Colgate. The Morehouse-Tuskegee game remains the greatest drawing card in this section, and the toughest intercollegiate schedule was played by Tennessee State. Among service teams, the Tuskegee Army Air Field Warhawks, piloted by Lt. William "Bill" Bell was tops, with the Fort Benning Reception Center Tigers, coached by Cpt. Charles R. Houghland running a close second.

### BASKETBALL

In the Southern Conference Tuskegee's Golden Tiger captured the championship with a 58-51 victory over the Clark College Panthers. Clark toppled 'Bama State in the semi-finals, while Tuskegee breezed thru over the Florida Rattlers. The Booker T. Washington High School Bulldogs, coached by Leslie C. Baker won the Georgia State Inter-scholastic crown, and later annexed the southeastern prep title in a tournament against Avery Institute, of South Carolina, and Stanton High, of Florida. Among the leading college hardwood stars of 1944 were: Henry Hollis, Charles Spears, ('Bama State); Russell Hapgood, William Carter, (Morris Brown); Thomas Hornburger, Calvin Jones, Charles Perry, (Tuskegee); Reginald Haynes, Phonecia Morris, Talmadge Owens, (Clark); Oliver Brooks, Jerome Harris, (Morehouse); Charles Matthews, (Fisk); Hawkins and Ellis of Florida.

### BASEBALL

The Atlanta Black Crackers made a great record against some of the strongest teams in the nation. thanks

to Owner John Harden. The Crax held their own against the N. Y. Black Yankees, St. Louis Stars, Baltimore Elite Giants, Black Barons, Pittsburgh Crawfords, Detroit Motor City Giants, New York Cubans, and Cincinnati Clowns. The highlights of the season were Skipper Mannings' brilliant no-hitter against St. Louis and Brennan King's sensational performance against the Black Yankees in the Yankee Stadium. The celebrated Homestead Grays won the 1944 World Series, defeating the Birmingham Barons, 8-3; 6-1; 9-0; and 4-2. The Barons only victory was chalked up at Pittsburgh by a margin of, 6-0. The best all-around performer to play in the Gate City was "Peanut" Davis, of Fort Benning, and the hardest hit ball at Ponce de Leon Park was hit by "Pepper" Rockin' Chair Bassett of Birmingham. The season's greatest "boner" was pulled by Terris McDuffie. The only tragedy of the season was the car wreck in which Tommy Sampson, "Pepper" Bassett, Leander Young and John Britton, of the Birmingham Black Barons were injured.

### BOXING

Joe Louis, the well-known Brown Bomber captured the spotlight in this field, when he completed a 14-month tour of battle fronts. During this tour, Louis entertained GI's on the various fighting fronts and was acclaimed the greatest morale builder in sports circles. Beau Jack, the scrappy little former lightweight champion from Augusta, Georgia, now stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, was named the "Boxer-of-the Year," by the "Ring" magazine. For five bouts at Madison Square Garden as a civilian in 1944, Jack attracted gates totaling \$460,610, which included the largest gate of \$132,623 for the bout with Al Davis. He also donated his services for a non-title war bond bout with champion Bob Montgomery which netted a total of \$35,864,900 in war bonds.

### GOLF

C. B. Faulkner won the Atlanta Open Golf crown in grand style, with Willie Wynn finishing in second position. This was the only big tournament sponsored by officials at the New Lincoln Golf and Country Club during the year. Pvt. Calvin Searles, who at the time was stationed at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., made history in the Tam O'Shanter Tournament with a 74, 73 and sub-par 69 on the first 54 holes. This brilliant young professional blew up on the final round, posting a 79, which forced him to finish one stroke out of the money. Participating in the Tam O'Shanter were: Lt. William Collier, who made a hole-in-one in the Atlanta Open; Robert Williams, of Great Lakes, Eddie Jackson, Solomon Hughes, T. R. Grimes, H. A. Alexander and Frank Ratcliffe.

### TENNIS

Lloyd Scott, of the Second Army Air Force won the 1944 tennis championship with a, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 victory over Pvt. Robert Ryland and a 6-4, 9-7, 1-6, 6-4, win over Dr. C. Reginald Weir. Roumania Peters, of Tuskegee annexed the ladies' crown by defeating Mrs. Lillian Van Buren. Cpl Howard Minnis and Ronald Fielletsean, of the Tuskegee Army Air Field won the men's doubles title, over "Chuck" Jones and Maurice Jackson, Carl Williams, of Orangeburg, S. C., emerged junior champion with a victory over Hilton Davis. The intercollegiate tennis crown was won by Alva Tabor, of Tuskegee, who topped Thomas Byers, of Johnson C. Smith in the finals.



# Why No Negroes Are Playing In Pro Football League

*New York, Amsterdam News, New York, N.Y.*  
**Record Shows Discrimination Based On "Gentleman's Agreement" Among Owners; Cite Chicago Bear Stand**

*11-17-45*  
 Let's move from the baseball front to the professional football world and ask why there are no Negroes in that well organized league. Jackie Robinson of Los Angeles has made history as the first Negro to crack the rigid color line in organized baseball, but the professional grid world spins along season in and season out with not a single dark face to color the lineups of the many teams.

Pressure would have to be applied to force entry into the ranks of professional football for talented Negro players just as it had to be applied to baseball. Where baseball never had a Negro who could be recognized as such, on contract with a number of clubs in the last 70 years, professional football has, and that is the reason why I am launching an all out fight to press the issue.

## Last To Play Was Joe Lillard

A bit of professional football history that might be enlightening to those who follow the game is this: the last Negro to play with a club in the National Professional Football League was Joe Lillard, of Oregon, who starred in the Chicago Cardinal backfield in 1933 and 1934. Since the passing of Lillard the unwritten law and understanding between coaches and managers and owners in the national professional football game is operated to effectively bar Negroes from playing. The national professional league got its biggest impetus and publicity from the talents and fame of a Negro player, Frederick Douglas (Fritz) Pollard, former Brown University immortal. *11-17-45*

The present league was founded in 1920 at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago and the clubs included Akron, Ohio; Canton, Ohio; Chicago; Cleveland; Cincinnati; Columbus, Ohio; Rochester, New York; Buffalo, New York, and Hammond, Indiana, with Rock Island as an associate club.

Fritz Pollard, named to the late Walter Camp's "All American Team," as a backfield man was the greatest thing in football between 1916 and 1925 and thereabouts. He was to football what Joe Louis today is to boxing. People thronged to see him wherever he played and he could do no wrong on the gridiron.

## Needed All Available Help

The new league was struggling along in a period when professional football was looked upon as the old prize fighters used to be regarded and needed every bit of help it could get. That was why Pollard was signed by the Akron Indians to play ball.

In the following year J. Mayo "Ink" Williams from Brown went with the Hammond, Indiana, Bulldogs while Duke Slater, All-American tackle from the University of Iowa went to Rock Island. When Fritz Pollard first started with Akron he became the first Negro to be taken into the national professional football league. Bobby Marshall, the immortal end from Minnesota played that same year, however, with the Rock Island Indians, but that club was not a member of the national body. *11-17-45*

## La Guardia Gets Report On Negroes in Baseball

*PM-New York, N.Y. 11-19-45*  
**Problem of Signing and Developing Players Put Up to Organized Sport**

The problem of signing and developing Negro players was placed squarely in the lap of organized baseball by the Mayor's Committee on Baseball, in its report to Mayor La Guardia, made public today. Since the late Judge Landis, base-

ball commissioner, said that there different color of skin, the same was no rule against using Negro right to compete for these self-players, the committee reported same honors. We know that the that organized baseball "has a re- major portion of the population in sponsibility of taking positive, ag- these Northern cities are impatient- gressive action rather than remain- of any low order of sportsmanship- ing passively complacent." The which refuses to recognize this re- problem no longer can be deferred quest." *11-19-45*

No special dispensations from The only equitable solution, ac- organized baseball are sought for cording to the report, is that indi- Negro players, the report said. It viduals be treated alike and that urged that skill should be the sole the Negro baseball leagues, which formula, thereby providing equal- it urged be taken into organized- ity of opportunity for all and offer- baseball, should not have the re- ing professional opportunities to sponsibility of developing Negro- Negro players which would encour- players for major league competi- age them to participate. tion any more than "it is the re-

"There is no difference between the potential ability of Negro and white youths," the report said. "We all admit that the reason Negroes are excluded from organized is sheer prejudice and tradition."

The process of integration is one for each club to undertake individually, the report pointed out. Answering the complaints on bad timing for the "social reform," it said:

"The argument is one that has been offered by every industry which has been called upon to meet this situation (discrimination). It has been pointed out that major league baseball draws 35 per cent of its players from traditionally prejudiced Southern communities and that these players would not care to play with Negroes. . . .

"If Southern youths expect to come to Northern cities and compete for the honors which such communities have to bestow, it is only fair and right that they allow youths, many of whom have no relation to these Southern back-grounds, but happen to have a



# Majors Leave Negro, Bonus Problems Unsolved

Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

By WALTER BYERS, United Press Sports Writer.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Major league club owners, their so-called "feud" with Commissioner A. B. "Happy" Chandler officially dead, still had two important problems before them tonight at the conclusion of their annual three-day winter meeting. 12-14-45

## BONUS BILL

The "bonus bill," passed by the minors to outlaw a bonus payment to a player for signing, was expected to be passed here until Chandler threw his weight against it and the owners tabled it. The bill, scheduled to come up at the February meeting, is aimed at the rich clubs, such as the Detroit Tigers, who grab off the cream of the young players by offering them huge bonuses for signing a contract. 12-14-45

It has long been a thorn in the side of such poor clubs as the St. Louis Browns who can't afford to compete in the race for prospects. The Browns, for example, would have liked to sign Dick Wakefield four years ago, but they were completely shut out by the \$52,000 bonus the Tigers gave Wakefield for his signature.

During the three-day meetings here, the owners turned down the Pacific Coast League's bid for a "major league" label, spiked reports that Chandler was a "figurehead" commissioner, and kept the \$50,000 promotion fund under the commissioner's jurisdiction. They also voted for unlimited night baseball and amended the major-minor league agreement.

But they tabled the controversial bonus bill and completely ignored the touchy Negro question which was brought to a head when Branch Rickey of the Dodgers signed Jackie Robinson, Negro shortstop sensation.

## UNOFFICIAL

"Never has Negro baseball or any aspect of it been discussed officially in baseball circles," Vice-President Bill Dewitt of the St. Louis Browns said. "You hear some talk of it unofficially, but nothing at the meetings."

Several of the club owners believed that although there is no need for legislation on the matter, it should be discussed in league meetings in an effort to map a general policy.

The Negro American and National Baseball Leagues closed out their two-day convention here today and both league heads, J. B. Martin of the American and Tom Wilson of the National, voiced disappointment that the majors had not discussed plans for Negroes.

Martin said he wanted the big leagues to recognize the Negro leagues as official organizations rather than sandlot circuits from which players can be snatched at random. Citing the Robinson case, he said the Kansas City Monarchs, Robinson's team, should be paid for the player just

# California League Signs Negro Player as Bramham Gives OK

By NAT LOW Daily Worker

Baseball Jimcrow received another sharp defeat yesterday when President W. B. Bramham of the minor leagues disclosed that he had approved the request of the California Baseball League to sign a Negro player for its Bakersfield club. 12-13-45

"Our executive committee unanimously opened the door of membership to all races in the Havana admission decision," Bramham stated. "Nothing else appearing, the Negro player is eligible to sign with Bakersfield."

Bramham added that the signing of Jackie Robinson by Brooklyn's Montreal farm club had established precedent in the matter.

The California League is rated as a Class C circuit in organized baseball with franchises in Santa Barbara, San Jose, Fresno and Bakersfield. It is famous for developing many major leaguers, recent ones being Hal Gregg and Vic Lombardi, Dodger pitchers, and Rex Cecil, Boston Red Sox hurlers.

Although Bramham, who is a Southerner, with offices in Durham, North Carolina, did not reveal the name of the Negro player signed by Bakersfield, the significant thing is that the doors of all the minor leagues are now being thrown open to Negro players.

This, as has long been pointed out by the Daily Worker, is the surest guarantee that Jimcrow will finally be driven completely out of our great national pastime.

The hiring of a Negro player by Bakersfield follows a vigorous campaign on the West Coast to end the Jimcrow bars in the Pacific Coast League. Advances from Los Angeles indicate that one or more Negro players may shortly be signed by teams in the Coast League.

New York, N.Y.



82b-1945

# Report to Mayor Daily Worker Demands End of N.Y., N.Y. Baseball Jimcrow

By NAT LOW 11-20-45

Mayor LaGuardia's Committee on Baseball made public its findings over the weekend and recommended that the major leagues take immediate steps to give Negro athletes complete and full equality of opportunity.

The report declared that Negroes have been excluded from baseball because of "sheer prejudice and tradition" and that there was "no difference between the potential ability of Negro and white youths."

The committee, formed last August by the Mayor, is chaired by Dr. John H. Johnson, Negro clergyman. Other members of it are Supreme Court Justice Jeremiah T. Mahoney, Daniel Higgins of the Board of Education; Edward Lazansky, Charles S. Colden, Prof. Robert M. Haig, Arthur Daley, sports columnist of the New York Times; Bill Robinson and Branch Rickey and Larry McPherson, presidents of the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Yankees respectively.

The committee's report, originally scheduled for publication yesterday, was held up by an appeal by Dan Dodson, of the Mayor's Committee on Unity, who asked the newspapers not to print the report unless Mayor LaGuardia made it public during his weekly radio address Sunday. LaGuardia did not mention the report and as a result the Daily Worker held up publication. However, the New York Times ignored Dodson's request and ran it yesterday.

Committee members, queried by the Daily Worker yesterday, were at a loss to understand why LaGuardia did not mention it, thus causing confusion on the release date.

## HARD-HITTING, DOCUMENTED REPORT

However that may be, the report of the committee is of great importance in the long campaign to completely wipe out Jimcrow in baseball. It is hard-hitting, factual and splendidly documented.

It strikes at the very heart of the question: racial discrimination. And one of the points in the summary states that "we hope that a way would be found to bring the Negro leagues into organized baseball." This is the position taken not only by the Negro leagues but by all progressive persons.

It heartily commends the action of Branch Rickey of the Dodgers in signing Jackie Robinson and says: "How the process of integration is to be consummated is a problem for each club to undertake individually, but a problem which can no longer be deferred or avoided."

In discussing the qualifications of Negro players the report points to the glorious achievements of Negro athletes in all other sports endeavors and says: "The exploits of Negroes in boxing, football, basketball and track are to well known to reenumerate. We have not found a single individual who would admit that Negroes do not possess potential physical capacities which would make them worthy of major league competition."

## TEAMWORK DEMONSTRATED

Further, the report says, "Negro youths have demonstrated their abilities both to perform and to cooperate with other players in team-work in practically every other sport, leaving only organized baseball as one of the last to square itself with the ideals of democracy. In sports where even more intimate team-work is needed and more physical contact found, such as in football and basketball, there has been demonstrated the fact that Negroes and white play together as a team without

Baseball

any difficulty."

11-20-45

In the third part of its summary, the report says, "good sportsmanship alone as well as the moral principles involved, would demand that they (Negroes) not be excluded."

And the fourth part of the summary states: "Consequently, organized baseball has a responsibility of taking positive, aggressive action rather than remaining passively complacent."

It meets squarely the question of southern athletes. "It is to be recognized that there is scarcely a city in which major league baseball operates that could be classified as a traditionally southern city and aspiring youths who come from southern sections of the country are expected to recognize and respect other customs and laws of the sections into which they migrate. An exception can hardly be made for organized baseball. . . . If southern youths expect to come to the northern cities and compete for the honors which such communities have to bestow, it is only fair and right that they allow other youths, who happen to have a different color of skin, the same right to compete and we know that the major portion of the population in these northern cities are impatient of any low order of sportsmanship which refuses to recognize this request.

"In conclusion, it need only be said that the move by the Brooklyn club meets this responsibility and paves the way for others to follow. . . . We would like to ask lastly that the committee be continued to extend the work started."

The report cannot but have a profound influence upon the further fight against Jimcrow in baseball. If it is followed up and supported by the Mayor, if it is supplemented by action by all real democrats, it can go a long way towards finally ridding ALL organized baseball of the shame of Jimcrow.

# Report Another Negro Atlanta, Ga. Daily World Baseball Star Signed

BROOKLYN—(ANP)— Another Negro baseball star has been signed by Branch Rickey, president of the famous Brooklyn Dodgers, to play major league baseball.

Wright will be framed out to Montreal along with Robinson, reports say.

Following closely on the heels of signing Jackie Robinson, UCLA grid star and Kansas City Monarchs shortstop to his Montreal team a few weeks ago, Rickey is reported to have secured last week the services of John Wright, star pitcher for the Homestead Grays of the Negro National League. The signing, it was learned took place in the Dodger president's office following a meeting with several Negro stars.

## NO CONFIRMATION

While no confirmation of the signing of Wright has been made by Rickey, protests from Negro baseball owners have already made to A. B. (Happy) Chandler, baseball's High commissioner, against the Dodger leader. Neither Chandler nor Rickey has recognized charges that Dodger scouts are raiding Negro leagues for players.

The baseball czar admitted he had received a protest letter from Negro leagues but said that it did not constitute "a bona fide dispute for consideration by his office." 11-18-45



# Committee Report to Mayor Asks Equal Rights for Negro in Baseball

*New York Times*

Charging that the reason Negroes had been excluded from organized baseball was "sheer prejudice and tradition" and that there was "no difference between the potential ability of Negro and white youths," Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia's committee, appointed last August to study the question of racial discrimination in professional baseball, recommends, in its report to the Mayor, that the major leagues lose no time adopting a policy whereby Negro players would receive equal opportunity for advancing.

The report, released for publication today, is the finding of a committee appointed last August by the Mayor largely upon the request of Larry MacPhail, president of the Yankees, and Branch Rickey, president of the Dodgers. Its chairman is Dr. John H. Johnson, Negro clergyman and member of the advisory board of the Department of Welfare, and both MacPhail and Rickey served on the committee.

Other members of the committee are Supreme Court Justice Jeremiah T. Mahoney, Daniel E. Higgins of the Board of Education; Edward Lazansky, former president of the Appellate Division in Brooklyn; Supreme Court Justice Charles S. Colden of Queens; Prof. Robert M. Haig of Columbia University; Arthur Daley, sports columnist of THE NEW YORK TIMES, and Bill Robinson, tap dancer.

Mayor La Guardia made no reference to the committee's findings in his weekly radio broadcast from City Hall.

The report expresses the belief that "the only equitable solution to this problem is that individuals be treated alike and with relation to their abilities throughout organized baseball."

It commends the action of the Dodgers, who in October became the first club in organized baseball to open the doors to a Negro player by signing 26-year-old Jackie Robinson for their Montreal farm club, and expresses the hope that this action will pave the way for others to follow.

"How the process of integration is to be consummated," the report states, "is a problem for each club to undertake individually, but a basis. Many players have 'jumped' problem which can no longer be deferred or avoided."

Although admitting that at the moment Negro players might not

be able to perform up to major-league standards, the report attributed this largely to the lack of opportunities Negroes had had for developing themselves on a par with white players in organized baseball.

The committee, which apparently made an exhaustive study of the general structure of organized baseball as well as the leagues in which Negroes now play exclusively, opens its report with a comprehensive outline of both fields, before closing with a six-point summation.

## A \$100,000,000 Business

"It is estimated by individuals familiar with the field," the report reads, "that the white leagues operate a \$100,000,000 business annually and within the organized structure just described (namely, the two major leagues and their affiliated minor leagues) there are forty leagues operating from coast to coast."

"In contrast to this there are four Negro leagues. These are loosely organized and it would be difficult to say that they operate with any proximity to the quality of discipline and training achieved in white organized baseball. They constitute at best an opportunity for about 400 players annually to participate in professional baseball. \* \* \*

"A large per cent of the games played by the Negro clubs are 'exhibition games' and are played only at the times when they can secure the parks used by the major league teams. Therefore, they have a difficult time maintaining schedules which are anything like approximate professional standards achieved in white leagues. This makes it difficult for Negro boys to get the training necessary to qualify them for participation in big league organized baseball."

In examining the status of the Negro leagues the committee reports: "It is estimated that they do a \$2,000,000-a-year business and the New York Yankee management points out that last year Negro teams paid \$100,000 in rentals and concessions for their four ball parks in New York, Kansas City, Newark and Norfolk.

## Contracts Are Analyzed

Regarding the contention that Negro players were under contract to clubs in Negro leagues and that these contractual obligations could not be violated without destroying interest in Negro teams, the report replies:

"This contractual relationship is a loose one at best and the contracts are tenuous. Many players play on a gate-receipt percentage basis. Many players have 'jumped' their contracts in mid-season and nothing has been said about it."

\* \* \* Schedules are loose arrangements and entirely at the mercy

of the clubs who own the parks." This portion of the report concludes with the statement:

"If the equity of Negro professional baseball clubs was never to be disturbed, the reform could never be accomplished and the onus of present Jim Crow practices would be placed on Negroes themselves. Thus the practice which arose because of an evil would become the reason for its perpetuation."

"Most people admit that the Negro leagues, under present arrangements, can never produce players qualified for big league competition. These Negro leagues are powerless to bring themselves into organized baseball and no one from within the profession has seen fit to organize them into leagues capable of participating in such competition."

In discussing the qualification of Negro players for big league standards, the report points out that

"the entire field of sports other than baseball serves as an illustration. The exploits of Negroes in boxing, football, basketball and track are too well known to re-enumerate. We have not found a single individual who would admit that Negroes do not possess potential physical capacities which would make them worthy of major league competition."

Urging that skill alone be the determining factor in qualifying players, both Negro and white, for the major leagues, the report concludes with the following six-point summation:

1. That there is no difference between the potential ability of Negro and white youths. We all admit that the reason Negroes are excluded from organized baseball is sheer prejudice and tradition.
2. Negro youths have demonstrated their abilities both to perform and to cooperate with other players in team-work in practically every other sport, leaving organized baseball as one of the last to square itself with the ideals of democracy. In sports where even more intimate team-work is needed and more physical contact found, such as in football and basketball, there has been demonstrated the fact that Negroes and whites play together as a team without any difficulty.
3. That good sportsmanship alone, as well as the moral principles involved, would demand that they not be excluded.

## Landis Statement Quoted

4. Inasmuch as Commissioner Landis said within the past year that there was no rule in organized baseball whereby a Negro could not be accepted on a team, it becomes clear then that their exclusion is due to segregation. While it is true that there is no such rule, the fact that Negroes have been excluded for these seventy years indicates that something more is needed than silence if this barrier is to be hurdled. Consequently, organized baseball has a responsibility of taking positive, aggressive action rather than remaining passively complacent.

5. This only leaves then the matter

of timing the move. Here, one would be forced to say that the time is never ripe for social reform. The arguments as to the ill-timed pattern is one that has been offered by every industry which has been called upon to meet this situation. It has been pointed out that major league baseball draws 35 per cent of its players from traditionally prejudiced Southern communities and that these players would not care to play with Negroes. Yet, it is to be recognized that there is scarcely a city in which major league baseball operates that could be classified as a traditionally Southern city, and aspiring youths who come from Southern sections of the country are expected to recognize and respect other customs and laws of the sections into which they migrate. An exception could hardly be made for organized baseball.

## Fair Play Is Asked

If Southern youths expect to come to Northern cities and compete for the honors which such communities have to bestow, it is only fair and right that they allow other youths, many of whom have no relation to these Southern backgrounds but happen to have a different color of skin, the same right to compete for these self-same honors, and we know that the major portion of the population in these Northern cities are impatient of any low order of sportsmanship which refuses to recognize this request.

We should hope that a way would be found to bring the Negro leagues into organized baseball with some sort of arrangements made whereby they could continue to serve local needs within our larger communities and at the same time could offer opportunities for the development of Negro players, but in the last analysis it is not the responsibility of the Negroes to prepare players to participate in major league competition any more than it is the responsibility of the Jews or the Italians or the Cubans to accept such responsibilities for their groups. We believe that the only equitable solution to this problem is that individuals be treated alike and with relation to their abilities throughout organized baseball.

In conclusion the report requests that the committee be continued to extend the work started.



82b-1945  
10,000 Sign For  
~~Chicago Defender~~  
Negroes In Big  
League Baseball  
#-28-45

By JEROME MEHLMAN

NEW YORK — Ten thousand signatures have been returned on 200 petitions sent out by the New York Inter-racial Youth committee, which is fighting for the Negro to gain a place in big league baseball. Three hundred more petitions are yet to be sent in, and when all are accounted for a total of 25,000 signatures is expected.

These petitions are the committee's first organized move to better relations between whites and Negroes.

The committee was formed in February of 1944 with its existence dedicated to the creation of tolerance and better understanding of minority group problems.

At the suggestion of Dr. Earl Hunter, teacher of history at the French Seminary of Manhattan, the libraries of New York City were called together to develop the basis for an inter-racial group. The IYC was the result.

THE PURPOSE OF the committee was to have children of all ages meet, discuss and debate inter-racial problems among themselves and in this manner settle disputes and answer questions in a democratic way.

Since its formation the IYC has expanded from the library stage to include many of New York's high schools and elementary and private schools.

Over 100 children are enrolled in the committee and more than half play an active part in organization affairs.

The meetings are held at the 135th street branch library, one of New York's modern homes of culture and literature. It is a beautifully kept place with all facilities on hand extended to the committee for its own personal use.

The baseball petition was the brain child of Richard Herman, 16-year-old senior at French seminary. He is responsible for its functioning successfully at the present time.

Among other organizations, the IYC is supported by the Mayor's Committee on Unity, Freedom House, the Catholic Inter-racial committee and the American Jewish Congress.



# Negro Kid Cog in CCNY Team

(This is the fourth in a series on 1945-46 local college basketball teams.—Ed. Note.)

Nat Holman, starting his 27th year as basketball coach at City College, faces a tough season which may well be one of his worst. Not that Nat has slipped any in the coaching department—it is simply lack of material that will bog down the Beavers this season.

Time was when CCNY was a basketball lodestone, attracting young players from miles around. Those days may not be gone forever, but they certainly have taken a holiday and that old Allegeroo which used to fill the Garden may lack luster this winter. 11-26-45

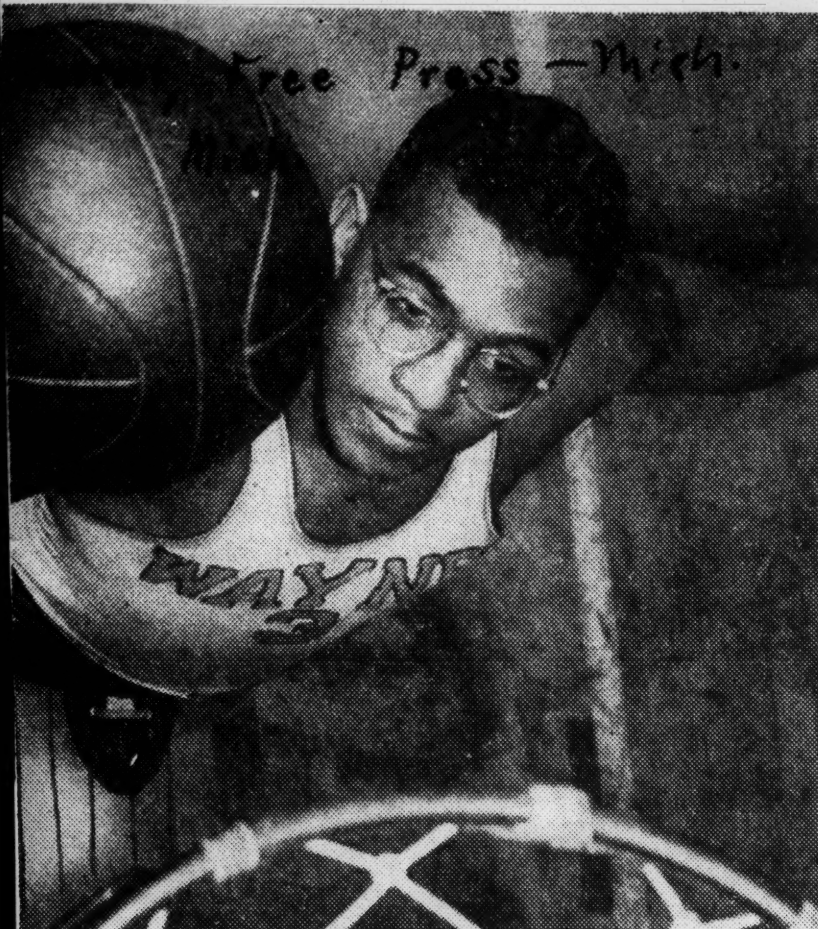
However, there are two bright spots in Holman's outlook, and they are both freshmen. Back from last season are speedy Paul Schmones, Len Hassman and Marv Hillman, who was a spare last year. The two freshmen are Spencer "Sonny" Jameson, a six-foot Negro lad whose exploits carried Seward Park to the PSAL finals last winter and Jordy Klein, from DeWitt Clinton, the city's top high school team last season. 11-26-45

Jameson, who was ranked the outstanding high school player in the city last campaign, is a fine prospect. Says Holman, "He is a natural all-around athlete with splendid coordination. He's quick in diagnosing plays, is a fine passer and a hard worker. He has typical high school habits, but once he picks up my system he'll prove invaluable."

As for Klein, Holman says, "He is moving well in workouts but he's small for college ball. However, he can run and score and loves to play." 11-26-45

The holdovers, Schmones, Hassman and Hillman are known quantities. Schmones, who was named All-City last season, is a driver and high scorer who is always digging in and who is invaluable in the clutch. Hassman is a big fellow who become a rugged guy off the backboards late in season and Hillman is just so-so. Missing will be Sid Finger, the classy playmaker and passer who is now on the first string Great Lakes Naval team.

A few other rookies who may help are Milt Greenberg, an ex-serviceman, Carlton Irish, another Negro lad who is very tall but very thin, and Herb. . . Bobby, a regular City center in 1942-43 is back after a three-year stay in the Army but he



SECOND EDITION—Leon C. Wheeler, Jr., first son of a former Wayne University athlete ever to compete for the Green and Gold, takes a push shot at the basket in preparation for the Tartars' Monday night engagement with Albion College at Mackenzie High School at 8 p. m. Wheeler's father was a prominent Wayne athlete in the early 1920's.

HOBOKEN, N. J.  
JERSEY OBSERVER  
Circ. D. 36,937

JUL 12 1945

## Reds Ready To Pluck Eagles

Prevented twice from matching their skill against the powerful Newark Eagles of the Negro National League, the Union City Reds are looking forward to their third scheduled meeting with the Essex County team optimistically tonight at the Union City Roosevelt Stadium.

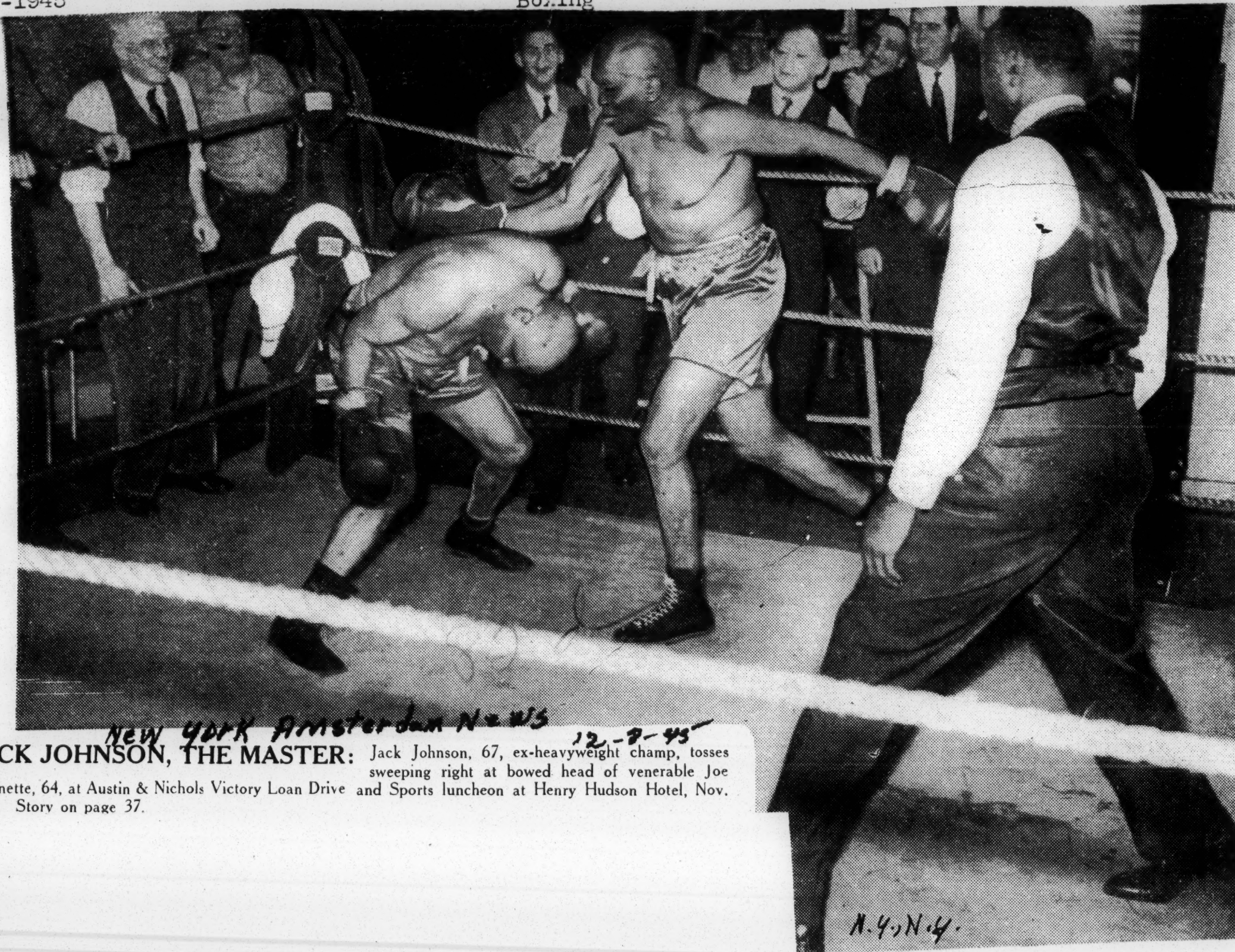
The Reds, who showed some semblance of their true form last Sunday when they turned the tables on

the Royal Colored Giants twice after having absorbed four straight setbacks, will have an opportunity to regain the support of their rooters if they manage to "knock off" the famed Eagles.

The Newarkers easily are one of the best Negro clubs active in these parts and they are bringing to Union City a host of stars who should make things really hot for the locals.

Manager Andy Benedict's revised lineup Sunday showed to advantage against the Royals and in all likelihood the Reds' mentor will string along with the same outfit in hopes of gaining the verdict over the Eagles.





*NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS 12-8-45*  
**JACK JOHNSON, THE MASTER:** Jack Johnson, 67, ex-heavyweight champ, tosses sweeping right at bowed head of venerable Joe Jeannette, 64, at Austin & Nichols Victory Loan Drive and Sports luncheon at Henry Hudson Hotel, Nov. 27th. Story on page 37.



82d-1945

## Boxing

# Ringing the Bell for Tommy

Tommy Bell, the Negro scrapper from Youngstown, Ohio, who fights Jake LaMotta at the Garden Friday night, travelled from his own town to Toledo on July 21, 1942, to watch his brother Shelton box Herbie Katz on a program headlined by Lee Savold and Bill Poland.

When Tommy reached Toledo he found the promoter, Jack Lawen, worried by the failure of one of the preliminary boxers to show up. *Daily Worker*

Lawen took a look at young Tommy and talked him into accepting a substitute's role in a bout against Bobby McIntyre.

Bell lost a four-round decision but was launched on a professional boxing career which was quite all right because, as he puts it: "I was finding it tough to make a living as an amateur." Bell was born in Atlanta, Ga., March 13, 1923. He was only a year old when his family moved to Youngstown. He got his schooling there and for a while attended Wilberforce University but quit to concentrate on his boxing activities. *7-3-45*

Bell was 13 and weighed 126 when he began boxing as an amateur. He was pretty good, reached the finals of an A. A. U. tournament at Boston. Tommy's interest in boxing sprang from the fact that his brother Shelton was a fair light-heavy and spent a lot of time teaching Tommy the rudiments. During his first six months as a pro Tommy did not do so well, losing three of six fights. *N.Y., N.Y.*

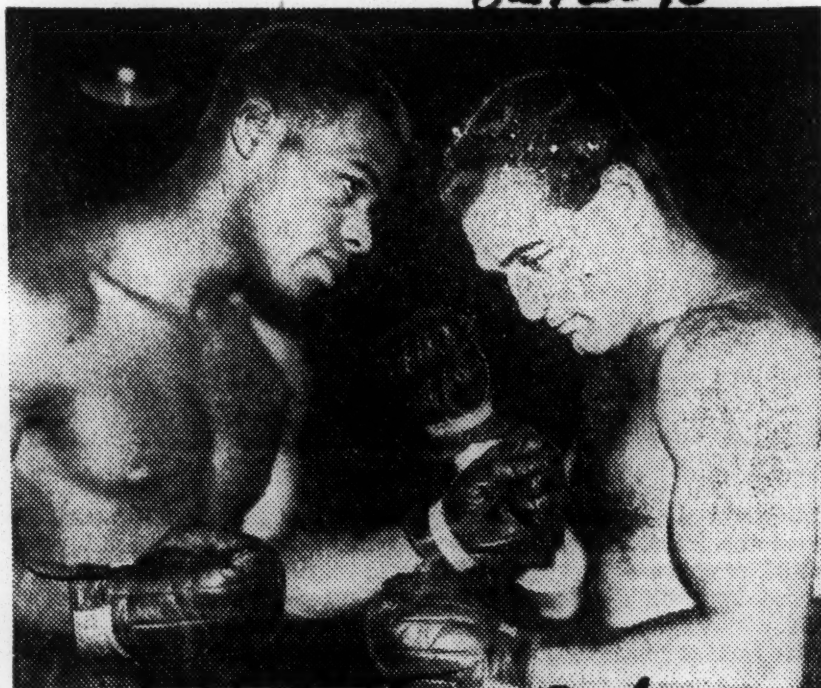
But he began to click in 1943 and rolled up 17 victories in a row, 10 of them knockouts. He piled up 12 more consecutive triumphs in 1944, eight of them kayoes. Now he had lifted himself high in welterweight ranks. He started off this year by dropping a decision to Ray Robinson in Cleveland and he was outpointed by Ossie Harris in Pittsburgh, setbacks which he attributed to the fact he had been hospitalized with a bladder infection prior to the Robinson contest. In his last two ring starts, however, he knocked out Bobby Richardson in six rounds and Chuck Hunter in five. Now he's ready for his New York debut with Jake LaMotta. *7-3-45*

A good puncher, Bell has registered knockouts in more than half

his fights. . . . His Garden start marks his first appearance in New York. . . . Married, he is the father of a two-year-old son named Junior. . . . His wife attends most of his fights and will see him box Friday. . . . Bell hopes to operate a night club when his ring days are ended.

## Bee Bee Faces Big Ring Test in Fiorello

8-12-45



*Washington Post*  
Bee Bee Washington and Jerry Fiorello

Jerry Fiorello, Brooklyn Italian, who is ranked as the No. 10 middleweight in the country, came to town yesterday for his important date tomorrow night at Griffith Stadium, where he provides the next, and perhaps toughest test for Foggy Bottom's Bee Bee Washington, 21-year-old Negro youngster, who has crashed his way into the country's select circle of fisticuffing, plenty of experience behind him.

By virtue of his well-earned triumph last month over Vic Dellicurti, Bee Bee took over the No. 8 slot that Dellicurti owned before entering the ring. Thus, for the first time, two ranking middleweights, one a local boy, meet here. On paper, the bout figures to be a slam-bang affair, with Fiorello, who recently registered a knockout over the highly regarded Artie Levine, striving to land his Sunday punch on Bee Bee's questionable chin and Bee Bee, with one of the fanciest and deadliest left hands in the business, again relying on superb physical condition and excellent boxing ability.

**Fiorello Good Boxer**

Fiorello isn't entirely a slugger. He's a boxer of better than average ability and is a cutie-pie with

**Double B In Good Shape**

Bee Bee has been training for three weeks for the test with Fiorello. He has been boxing sharply and, as always, is in the finest shape one of the best trainers in the country, Billy Edwards, can get him.

Bee Bee has been installed a slight favorite at 6 to 5 odds, which is unusual. Against his last two New York foes, Terry and Dellicurti he was the underdog as much as 8 to 5 in some quarters yet he came through to win. Tomorrow night is important to Bee Bee and it isn't unreasonable to believe anything can happen.

Oscar (Thunderbolt) Wright, local lightweight who wants to be called "Atomic" Wright, is down in one of the four sixes, meeting Marcel Fournier of Canada. Other sixes bring together Flat Top Cummings vs. Bobby Suma, welters; Joe Davis vs. Jimmy McGriff, junior welters, and Rocco Lescio vs. Baby Armstrong, lightweights. . . .

**AL COSTELLO.**

## James J. Johnston Claims His Boy Will Take Joe's Crown

**Veteran Pilot Banks On Negro Heavyweight, Ex-GI Champion**

By JAMES J. JOHNSTON

Gene Tunney and Jack Dempsey, in addition to the press, say the next heavyweight champion will come from the Armed Forces. They also say Joe Louis is too old to last long for some young, strong boxing men can have the title almost for the asking. *N.Y.*

Well! Well! If that is true, I have the next champion in the person of Al Hoosman — the former M. P. of the Armed Forces — now discharged from the Army who was the heavy weight champion of the Pacific area.



**AL HOOSMAN**

Hoosman also knocked out the Australian champion, Herb Narvo, twice, so he now claims the heavyweight title of Australia, having lived there longer than the law says one must to qualify him for a chance to fight for an Australian Championship.

Al Hoosman stands 6 feet 5 inches tall, weighs 210 pounds in condition and is 25 years old. He has been boxing on and off for six years. Boxed more times in Australia and the Pacific area than he did in America, winning over 40 contests and was never defeated.

Gene Tunney refereed one of Hoosman's contests and, according to the Army newspaper, "YANK," he is quoted as saying: "Al Hoos-

man is the best looking heavyweight I have seen so far and he should soon be on top in the heavyweight class, for he has all the requisites of a great fighter; height, weight, a punch and plenty of courage."

So, Mr. Joe Louis, be on the lookout for a tall, dark and handsome man whom all the experts say is your successor. Remember! I'm a warning you that this 6 feet 5 inches of dusky dynamite will start next month to clear away all of those 4-Fs that have been cluttering up the boxing rings here and about. The experts say that he is the best heavyweight among the service men who went overseas to do their bit for Uncle Sam.



# Bee Bee in Toughest Washington Post - D.C. Test in Lanier Bout 12-9-45

By Tony Neri  
Post Staff Writer

Bee Bee Washington, the well-conditioned Foggy Bottom Negro, will meet his stiffest test Tuesday night since being ranked fifth among the Nation's middleweights when he meets Berlie Lanier, tough Philadelphian, in a 10-round boxing attraction at Turner's Arena.

Haile din some quarters as an outstanding fighter, and in others as mediocre, Washington will have a chance to prove way or the other if he's a good fighter or not.

Lanier comes here with a reputation of being a spoiler, having to his credit a victory over Sonny Horner, who only Friday night beat Artie Levine in a main event in Madison Square Garden.

Bee Bee's critics point to opponents like Indian Gomez, Johnny Lawer and Ray Rovelli when they say he hasn't fought the best talent available.

## He Won 'Em All

However, in all these bouts the Washingtonian did everything asked of him, mainly he won.

If Bee Bee has been brought along gradually, it is understandable. Too many promising local boys have been rushed too fast, and consequently by the time they've fought four years they are through. Bee Bee at 22 has his best fighting days ahead.

Washington's handlers realize their fighter is ranked too high in the national ratings, but this doesn't warrant that Bee Bee should be matched with the top-notch men in his division. 12-9-45

In taking the Lanier fight—which looms as a tough one—Bee Bee will have a chance to answer his critics. Lanier has fought some of the toughies of the middleweight heap. He kayoed Johnny Finazzo in six heats; lost and drew with Coley Welch; and licked Joe Carter, who holds a victory over the veteran Holman Williams.

## Turner Arena Standby

Regardless of what the fans think of Washington's ability, they still come to see him fight—some hoping he's licked, and others to see him win. Without his main Turner's Arena turnout is as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard.

Matchmaker Gabe Mendez has two other local favorites on the card, both scheduled to go six rounds. Jackie Cranford, former amateur champion, will face Mike Enrick in a heavyweight brawl, and Jimmy McGriff meets Joe Murphy of Harrisburg, Pa.

McGriff, two weeks ago knocked out Charley Milan of Baltimore in seven heats while in the role of a 3-1 underdog.

Three four-rounders will complete the card.



BERLIE LANIER



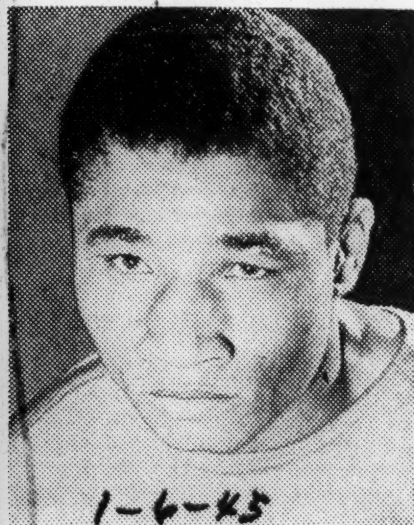
# Ring Magazine Rates Beau Jack Aids

## Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Fighter of the Year

NEW YORK—Beau Jack, former lightweight champion (N.Y. State version) and conqueror of Juan Zurita, the NBA titleholder, was named "fighter of the year" in Ring Magazine's annual boxing resume, released here last week.

The Augusta, Ga., scrapper, who headlined 13 main events in Madison Square Garden during 1944, was lauded by Nat Fleischer, editor of the publication, as the "standout figure" in New York boxing last year.

"In designating Beau Jack as the boxer of the year," says the magazine, "The Ring" wishes to make it plain that it is not naming him the world's lightweight champion. Nor is it disposed to regard



BEAU JACK

Bob Montgomery or Juan Zurita as the leader of that division. "The Ring" rules the lightweight title open until the New York champion (Montgomery) meets Zurita, the N. B. A. titleholder, to settle the matter of world supremacy." But, Fleischer rates Jack over both men. The article continues: "Beau Jack did most to keep boxing interest alive through 1944. He certainly is the standout figure in the tremendous boxing boom in New York."

Joe Louis, of course, is among boxers whose titles are listed as frozen for the duration.

The ratings show colored fighters placed first, second and third among the heavyweights; second and third among the light-heavyweights; second and fourth with the middles; second and third with the welters; first and second with the lights and third and fourth with the featherweights. They follow:

**HEAVYWEIGHT DIVISION**  
(Joe Louis, World Champion,

Title Frozen)

1. Jimmy Bivins, Cleveland; 2. Lee Murray, Norwalk, Va.; 3. Melio Bettina, Beacon, N.Y.; 4. Curtis Shepard, Baltimore; 5. Joe Baski, Kulpmont, Pa.; 6. Lee Oma, Detroit; 7. Tami Mauriello, New York; 8. Al Hart, Washington, D.C.; 9. Joey Maxim, Cleveland; 10. Jack London, Great Britain; 11. Lou Nova, Van Nuys, Calif.; 12. Buddy Scott, Tampa; 13. Jack Walker, Columbus, Ohio.

**LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT DIVISION**  
(Gus Lesnevich, World Champion, Title Frozen)

1. Lloyd Marshall, Sacramento; 2. Eddie Booker, Sacramento; 3. Bruce Woodcock, Great Britain; 4. Freddie Mills, Great Britain; 5. Jack Johnson, Australia; 6. Alabama Kid, Australia; 7. Walter Woods, New York; 8. Fitzie Fitzpatrick, Cleveland; 9. Watson Jones, Los Angeles; 10. Ken Overlin, Washington, D.C.

**MIDDLEWEIGHT DIVISION**  
(Tony Zale, World Champion, Title Frozen)

1. Holman Williams, Detroit; 2. Jake La Motta, New York; 3. Charley Burley, Pittsburgh; 4. Jose Basora, Puerto Rico; 5. Joe Carter, Rome, N.Y.; 6. Vince Hawkins, Great Britain; 7. Jack Chase, Walsenburg, Colo.; 8. Coley Welch, Portland, Me.; 9. Marcel Cerdan, France.

**WELTERWEIGHT DIVISION**  
(F. Cochrane, World Champion, Title Frozen)

1. Ray Robinson, New York; 2. Armstrong, Los Angeles; 3. Johnny Greco, Montreal; 4. Tippy Larkin, Garfield, N. J.; 5. Tommy Bell, Youngstown, Ohio; 6. Fritz Zivic, Pittsburgh; 7. Art Danahar, Great Britain; 8. Ernie Roderick, Great Britain; 9. Jimmy McDaniels, Los Angeles.

**LIGHTWEIGHT DIVISION**  
(International Title Vacant)

1. Beau Jack, Augusta, Ga.; 2. Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia (titleholder); 4. Bobby Ruffin, New York; 5. John Thomas, Los Angeles; 6. Willie Joyce, Gary, Ind.; 7. Ike Williams, Trenton, N.J.; 8. Cleo Shans, Los Angeles; 9. Freddie Dawson, Chicago; 10. Lulu Constantino, New York; 11. Ronnie James, Great Britain; 12. Maxie Shapiro, New York.

**FEATHERWEIGHT DIVISION**  
(Willie Pep, World Champion)

1. Willie Pep, Hartford; 2. Sal Bartolo (NBA champion); 3. Chalky Wright, Durango, Mex.; 4. Phil Terranova, New York; 5. Al Phillips, New York; 6. Enrique Bolanos, Mexico; 7. Willie Roache, Wilmington, Del.; 8. Charley Lewis, New York; 9. Ned Tarterton, Great Britain; 10. Harry Jeffra, Baltimore; 11. Danny Webb, Montreal; 12. Carlos Chavez, Los Angeles; 13. Young Finnegan, Panama.

## Boxing

### Beau Jack Aids Kansas City's Title Chances

BY MAURICE SHEVLIN.

Golden Gloves in Chicago has scored so many firsts in its 18 year history that they're difficult to enumerate, but another went on the list last night as THE TRIBUNE's annual Tournament of Champions got under way in the Stadium.

Pvt. Sidney Walker, better known in the boxing world as

Beau Jack, the little Augusta [Ga.] bootblack who soared to the heights in just four years, made his first appearance in a Chicago ring—as one of the coaches of the Kansas City [Mo.] team.

It was Jack, you know, who in 1940 was sent to New York by a group of golfers from the Augusta National Golf club to start what proved to be a meteoric career. He was so good that Madison Square Garden officials just wouldn't let him go as he piled success upon success. Last year he gained recognition as the boxer of the year, the lad who did the most to keep the game alive as the standout figure in the tremendous boom that New York enjoyed.

Beat Some Stars.

His bouts included a 10 round victory over Lulu Costantino when that puncher was at the top of his form; a draw with Sammy Angott; a defeat by Bob Montgomery, recognized by the New York Boxing association as the lightweight champion, whom he later beat before a crowd of 15,822 which purchased \$35,864,900 in Fifth War Loan bonds that night. All Jack and Montgomery got for their bout was expense money. Then he beat Al Davis, Juan Zurita, and Maxie Berger.

Now he's in the army, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, near Rolla, Mo., and was given permission by his commanding officer to come to Chicago when one of the fort's boys made the team. Jack's charge, Pvt. John Harding, a heavyweight, will see action tonight.

He Should Help Team.

Kansas City has another strong team in the Tournament of Champions, and the addition of Jack as a coach has enhanced their chances for the team trophy award.



Beau Jack.

For instance, there is the featherweight member, Jack Darthard, the team's 112 pound champion last year and a finalist in the National A. A. U. tournament in Boston.

Another is Sgt. Matt Baranski, welterweight, who represents the Great Bend army air field and has been promised a furlough if he wins his way to the finals. He has a record of 24 victories and one loss.

Then there is Ray Spurlock, who scored a decision for Chicago against New York in the middleweight class last year. He has added to his power thru a season of hauling coal.

Jack says they're all as good as he is.

## Washington, Finazzo Have It Out Tonight

By Al Costello  
Post Staff Writer

Baltimore Johnny Finazzo and Foggy Bottom's Bee Bee Washington go at it again tonight at Griffith Stadium, meeting in their fourth bout in what has become a personal "world series." And it figures to be quite an argument.

Three times previously they have met with Bee Bee winning a 10-round decision that wasn't exactly unanimous after they had cuffed National Golf club to start what proved to be a meteoric career. He was so good that Madison Square Garden officials just wouldn't let him go as he piled success upon success. Last year he gained recognition as the boxer of the year, the lad who did the most to keep the game alive as the standout figure in the tremendous boom that New York enjoyed.

This time it is for 12 rounds. Those extra pair of rounds offer an angle that both sides claim is to their advantage. When "Bo" Bregman, manager of Washington, insisted Johnny make 163, he and Bee Bee's trainer, Billy Edwards, claimed shaving off four or five pounds would weaken Finazzo, especially in the late stages, thus allowing Bee Bee to finish fast and score impressively, possibly by a kayo.

Joe Wallace, Finazzo's manager and trainer, also claimed the added distance would react to Finazzo's benefit along with the weight stipulation. Wallace reasoned that Finazzo, in meeting the weight limit would work himself into the finest shape of his career and would be strong and active in the final rounds—more so than Bee Bee.

Finazzo and Bee Bee have demonstrated they are in the finest shape of their respective lives in public workouts all week, Finazzo at Turner's Arena and Bee Bee at Apollo gym. Finazzo, alone has had over 60 rounds of boxing alone in his two weeks of hard training.

The winner gets something big, Red Harris in a heavyweight scrap; Promoter Joe Turner and his aide Don Ellis of Washington meeting de camp, Matchmaker Gabe Men-Johnny Ditto of Baltimore, middle-end, have promised. The some-weights, and Billy Snead taking



Bee Bee Washington

thing is a bigger and more important money shot later in the season at the spacious ball park. Last time they met they sold out tiny Turner's Arena, turning away several hundred fans. Some four or five thousand fans are expected tonight with a good weather break and a gate of \$10,000 is figured to materialize.

Billy Banks, popular local lightweight and stablemate of Bee Bee, will meet Steve Bellico of New York in the six-round semifinal. Banks, on the comeback trail, has looked impressive in his past several starts.

Preliminaries offer Joe Finazzo, Johnny's older brother, meeting Red Harris in a heavyweight scrap; Promoter Joe Turner and his aide Don Ellis of Washington meeting de camp, Matchmaker Gabe Men-Johnny Ditto of Baltimore, middle-end, have promised. The some-weights, and Billy Snead taking

on Norval Gaddis, local welterweights.



# Set for Life



**AFRO-AMERICAN**  
5-26-45  
Baltimore, Md.  
5-28-45  
SAM LANGHORN.  
recognized as one of ringdom's greatest fighters of all time, who last week was reported secure for life in his blindness. A committee in charge of a benefit fund issued a final statement revealing a total of \$10, 892.33 was collected for him. A lifetime annuity has been purchased in his name.

## Robinson Bids \$60,000 For Cochrane Bout

11-15-45  
new York, N.Y.  
Ray Robinson, greatest welterweight in the world, yesterday offered Freddy "Red" Cochrane, cheese champion of the division, \$60,000 for a crack at his "title."  
Countering the \$50,000 offer for a bout between Marty Servo and Cochrane, the marvelous Negro fighter, who many say is the greatest scrapper pound for pound in the world today, stated, "If I have to buy my way into a sporting honor I stand ready to do it. I can afford to pay that price because I'm the only guy in the division who can get the money back by taking on all comers. **Daily Worker**  
"I always considered the championship a sporting proposition, but if it's going to be something for sale I think I'm more entitled to buy it than anyone else."  
Disgusted by the run-around he's

getting ever since he came into the welterweight division, Robinson has now called Cochrane's bluff. If it is money Cochrane wants to get out of his title, here is 10,000 smackers more than he was offered for the Servo fight.

A cheese champion ever since he took the title from Fritz Zivic more than four years ago (Fritz had an off-night), Cochrane last week made up a list of contenders for the crown and placed Servo first and Robinson sixth.

The New York State Boxing Commission meets Monday to pass on the proposed Cochrane-Servo fight and it has been revealed that commissioner Eddie Eagan has asked Robinson to appear. **NAT LOW.**

### Beau Jack Signed For Tiff With Joyce

Richmond, Va.  
Times Dispatch  
NEW YORK, Nov. 13—(AP)—Beau Jack, former holder of the New York-Pennsylvania world lightweight crown, will oppose Willie Joyce of Gary, Ind., in a 10-round bout in Madison Square Garden December 14. It will be Jack's first fight since his discharge from the Army. 11-14-45

## BEAU JACK BEATS JOYCE AT GARDEN

Augusta Boxer, in First Start Since Army Discharge, Wins Feature 10-Round Event  
12-15-45  
7,500 WATCH CONTEST  
new York, N.Y.

Romanello Gains Verdict Over Rinaldi in Semi-Final—  
'Brodt Halts Kennedy  
New York Times  
By JAMES P. DAWSON

Beau Jack, former lightweight champion, defeated Willie Joyce, Gary (Ind.) scrapper, in the main bout of ten rounds at Madison Square Garden last night. This was the first start for the Augusta (Ga.) boxer since his discharge from the army.

The crowd, estimated at 17,500, was a testimonial to the popularity of the veteran Jack, always a great box-office attraction.

At 144 pounds, the Augusta battler was heavier than he had ever been. But though the contracts

for the bout were signed at the welterweight limit, Jack insisted he would fight in the future as a lightweight. Joyce weighed 137½ pounds.

Benny Leonard, only retired undefeated world lightweight champion, was the referee. The judges were Frank Forbes and Jim Hagan.

### Displays Harder Punch

A new, heavier and a harder-punching Jack was unveiled as soon as the opening bell sent the fighters on their way. Joyce tried to make it a long-range battle and that proved satisfactory with Jack. The Hoosier lad stabbed his left out of a crouch aiming at Jack's face, but the Beau had a left of his own and he peppered Joyce with it steadily.

After a brief turn at this, Jack suddenly cut loose with sweeping, over-hand lefts and rights for the jaw, and with one right almost upset Joyce in the first minute of the melee.

In the second Beau pressed the attack, but was wild. Joyce's left jab was working smoothly and held off Beau's vicious rushes. In one attack the Georgian missed no less than five rights and as many lefts for the jaw as Joyce skillfully evaded him.

There was no denying the Beau in the third. His blows landed on the head or in the ribs and Joyce retreated. Joyce fought back gamely, though uppercuts kept his head bobbing. It was the Beau's famous "bolo" punch.

Opening the fourth, Jack pressed Joyce about the ring with lefts and rights for the head and body until Joyce's solid left jabs tilted the Beau off balance with short left hooks, the Hoosier had the right side of Jack's face swollen and at close quarters Joyce's short-arm lefts and right to the body were driven home frequently.

Leo Romanello of Brooklyn took the decision over Johnny Rinaldi, Bronxite, in the six-round semi-final, a slam-bang encounter. Romanello got up off the ring floor to score his victory with a display of fighting fury that more than matched Rinaldi's furious onslaughts.

Topped in the first session with left and right to the jaw when he was partly off balance, Romanello pulled Rinaldi down with him. They rose before a count could get underway and thereafter it was a battle featuring head-to-head slugging in which neither asked nor gave quarter. There was little to choose between them thereafter. Rinaldi slowed perceptibly and Romanello proved stronger, steadier and the more accurate puncher. Romanello weighed 143½ pounds and Rinaldi, 147.

Flooring his opponent for a four-count in the final round with a right to the jaw, Frankie Palermo, young Bronx lightweight, carried off the decision over Lou Prince, Princeton, N. J., in their four-

rounder. Palermo weighed 134½ pounds and Prince 129½.



## the LOW DOWN

### Beau Jack Not Great

### But a Delight to Watch

Daily Worker  
By Nat Low  
new York, N.Y.

At about 10 o'clock tonight, a brown skinned little man with a magnificently sculptured body will hurtle between the ropes and into the Garden ring. He will be wearing a white bathrobe and a towel will be wrapped around his head to prevent a chill.

After a few moments of dancing about to limber up, he will go to the middle of the ring, listen attentively to the oft-repeated instructions of the, referee then will warmly and with real sincerity stick out both of his gloved hands and wish his opponent good luck. After that he will hurry back to his corner, get a last bit of advice from his handler, do a fast dance with his hands on the corner-stands and, at the clang of the bell, he will whirl around and leap into the center of the ring to do battle with his opponent for the night.

The little man is Sidney Walker, whom you know as Beau Jack. Everything Beau does in the ring excites people. He is such a wonderful athlete, he even looks good missing—and he is so obviously wholesome and clean-cut that before the fight is two minutes old the crowd will be yelling for him like mad. 12-14-45

Beau Jack is not a great fighter—although at one time we thought he had the potentialities of becoming one of the best ever.

Beau's speed is astounding, as is his endurance, but the speed is never quite exploited fully. Only on rare occasions is it brought into play at that precise moment when it can do most damage to the foe.

Beau's punching ability is unquestioned. He can hurt anybody he can hit solidly, but it is not the kind of punch possessed by Ray Robinson, Joe Louis or even Rocky Graziano. That is, it does not upend a man and leave him helpless for the finisher. This is due, I imagine, to the fact that Beau rarely hits a man clean on the button. In other words, he is not a sharp-shooter who can pick out a small hole and then let fly with a crushing shot right on the target.

Beau wins his fights by his sheer energy, his toughness and combative spirit, for he is a fighter from beginning to end, always carrying the attack, always swarming over an opponent until the man wears out from exhaustion.

Despite the fact that Beau is not in the class of Ray Robinson, he is one of the best and certainly one of the most colorful fighters to come along in years and his very presence in the ring is enough to pack the Garden and send it into cascades of cheers.

Willie Joyce, his opponent for the night, is a so-so fighter with one major asset—a smart left hand. But Joyce is a cagey veteran who knows his way around in the business and it will be interesting to see what Beau, out of action for more than 16 months, will do with him.

No matter what happens, however, it will be an interesting and exciting night. It always is when Beau is there. 12-14-45



# Negro Soldier Sensation Of AAU Boxing Tourney

BOSTON, April 2 (UP).—A Negro soldier—confident he'll wear the world's heavyweight crown after the war—displays his fistic wares tomorrow as the National A.A.U. boxing tournament opens at Boston Garden.

With 93 simon-pure leather pushers gathered from the armed services and from 16 AAU district associations, the spotlight will be on the heavyweight class and particularly upon Cpl. Edwin Wagner of Fort Devens and Chicago.

Towering six feet seven inches and weighing 265 pounds, he even dwarfs the massive Primo Carnera who tipped the beam at 254 and stood six feet five-and-three-quarter inches.

The Corporal captured the New England amateur title in sectional eliminations last Monday. Wagner knocked out his first foe in one round, chilled his second in two. He was given the title when his third opponent declined to answer the bell for the second round after having absorbed a fusillade of rib-roasting blows.

Hailed as the greatest heavyweight prospect to appear in modern times in the amateurs, Wagner will be making his first appearance in the national tourney where champion Joe Louis showed as a member of the Michigan AAU team from Detroit 12 years ago.

Louis had little luck that year, being eliminated in the quarter-finals. But Wagner is given an odds-on chance to reach the finals on the basis of his past record—26 wins in 27 fights.

Now 24, the Chicago avalanche has been fighting as an amateur for five years. However, he has seen scant action in recent months because of his Army duties.

## RAY ROBINSON, COSTNER HEAD STADIUM SHOW

Consistent Ring Winners  
to Meet Wednesday.

BY FRANK MASTRO.

Ray [Sugar] Robinson sparred several rounds in the Ringside loop gymnasium yesterday afternoon in preparation for a 10 round fight with George Costner, Cincinnati knockout specialist, in Chicago Stadium Wednesday night.

Costner was only a preliminary fighter when the New York welter-weight star last appeared in Chicago, on Oct. 27. On that date Sugar scored a ninth round technical knockout over Sgt. Lou Woods, and Costner knocked out Phil Williams, Ray's stablemate, in a supporting match.

"What do you think of Costner's chances against you?" Ray was asked. Robinson, busy taping his hands glanced up and replied, "I being eliminated in the quarter-finals. But Wagner is given an odds-on chance to reach the finals on the basis of his past record—26 wins in 27 fights."

23 Victories, 22 Knockouts.  
Costner's conquest of Williams was his 18th straight knockout. He has scored five additional triumphs since then, four of them by knockouts, to give him a record of 23 consecutive victories and 22 knockouts. Sugar appeared properly impressed by this record when he said, "I expect Costner to give me a lotta trouble."

He no doubt was recalling his disappointing exhibition against Woods, against whom he failed to score a single knockdown.

Robinson belittled his performance against Tommy Bell in Cleveland last Jan. 16, saying he won the award after a hard fight. He was reminded of the two knockdowns he registered, one each in the ninth and 10th round. But that didn't cheer him much.

## Boxing

### Sugar Looking Ahead.

Sugar acted as tho he were being led to a slaughter, but he must expect to beat Costner because he is looking ahead to matches with Jack Lamotta in Madison Square garden Feb. 23 and Joe Curcio in Buffalo March 5.

Robinson has lost only one decision in 142 encounters both as an amateur and professional. Fifty-three bouts were fought in the money ranks. He scored 40 consecutive decisions as a pro before suffering that lone setback.

Robinson and Costner will appear in semifinal workouts in the Ringside gymnasium this afternoon, the latter at 1:30 o'clock and Ray at 3.

### Defended by Jacobs.

Robinson will donate 25 per cent of the purse he will receive for his match with Costner to a disabled veteran's fund, as he did after stopping Sgt. Woods. Ray's 35 per cent share amounted to \$9,746, of which \$1,953 went to the fund.

He also will collect 35 per cent of the receipts at Wednesday's encounter.

Mike Jacobs, New York promoter, who has more than a rooting interest in Robinson, has come to the defense of the New York boxer whose army record occasionally is attacked by sports writers who may not be thoroly familiar with the facts in the case.

Sugar, whose correct name is Walker Smith, was inducted into the service in March, 1943, and mustered out last June 3. It has been charged Ray was given "an easy discharge from the army as being temporarily unqualified for military service."

According to Jacobs, that report is not true. Mike sent a photostatic copy of the HONORABLE DISCHARGE [the caps belong to Jacobs] to prove his point.

## Georgia Battler Hailed

By JAMES BOYACK

NEW YORK—Pvt. Sidney Walker, USA, known to the Nation's sports fans as "Beau Jack the crowd thriller," received the Ring Magazine's merit award as the outstanding boxer of 1944 here last Wednesday in Ruppert's Brewery before the largest gathering of sports celebrities ever to attend the annual dinner of the Boxing Writers Association of New York.

The gold medal was presented to the former lightweight champion by Nat Fleischer, editor and publisher of The Ring, who bitterly differed with his fellow writers on having awarded the Edward J. Neil memorial plaque to Lieut. Comm. Benny Leonard, USMS, on the same occasion.

"Only rarely does a fighter come to the front in boxing, who, by his personality and fighting qualities, endears himself to boxing fans," Fleischer told the assembled scribes.

"This modest young man," he continued, "is blessed with the kind of color that brings out the crowds, and I am not referring to the color of his skin but to his ring personality."

"He has been a great fighter in the ring. He is now in a bigger fight for Uncle Sam."

While pointing out that the Beau drew the greatest gates in 1944, Fleischer added that his magazine's annual award goes to the boxer, "who, during the past year, has by his conduct and fighting qualities, earned the esteem of the sports public."

The four points which govern the Ring award for "The Fighter of the Year" are:

1. He must be foremost in his contribution to the skill and science of boxing, and he need not be a champion.
2. The recipient must combine with his high place in the ranking of fighters, a similar position as a sportsman.
3. He must associate his abilities as a fighter, good public relations and a reputation for clean and moral living.
4. The boxer receiving this award must be recognized as an example to growing American youth.

Replying to Nat Fleischer's glowing tribute, the colored boy, who rose from shining shoes to the pinnacle of the boxing world, explained that he had never gone in much for public speaking.

"All I can tell you," he said, "is that I will continue to fight, and will give every fight I'm in everything I've got, as I've always done."

"I'll be proud of this medal until I die, and when I die, I'll leave it to someone else."

## Feature Pits Youngsters at Olympia

Cocky Pittsburgher  
Has Experience Edge

### THE PROGRAM

Leroy Willis, Detroit, vs. Juste Fontaine, Pittsburgh, 10 rounds at 133 pounds.

Bill Grier, Detroit, vs. Ben Franklin, Pittsburgh, eight rounds at 148 pounds.

Cliff Beckett, Sudbury, Ont., vs. Martin Doyle, Detroit, six rounds at 156 pounds.

Charley Padalino, Detroit, vs. Willie Watkins, Detroit, six rounds at 156 pounds.

Mickey Quack, Pittsburgh, vs. Terry Finley, Toronto, six rounds at 124 pounds.

Tony Azzaro, Detroit, vs. Walter Stark, Detroit, four rounds at 148 pounds.

BY JAMES ZERILLI

Leroy Willis, of Detroit, makes his most ambitious bid for a higher ranking among the nation's lightweights when he takes on Juste Fontaine, of Pittsburgh, in the ten-round boxing headliner at Olympia Friday night.

Fontaine, a cocky, two-fisted and determined lad of 20, already has announced that he has visions of Willis groveling on the canvas "sometime during the third round."

REGARDLESS of the accuracy of Fontaine's vision, he definitely will present the big test for Willis. Until now, Willis, also 20, has bypassed a flock of fistic humpty-dumpties, 15 of them, in fact.

Fontaine is not exactly a veteran of the ring, nor is he a front-ranking lightweight. But in two years he has revealed brilliant possibilities, winning 25 of 27 bouts. He carries authority in each fist, recording 14 knockouts.

On the whole, Fontaine has faced more seasoned battlers than Willis. Fontaine's experience, plus punch has caused the local betting folks to install him as an 8 to 5 choice. The betting has been brisk, an indication of interest the fight has stirred.





Richmond Times  
Lightweight Billy Banks  
6-20-45

## Billy Banks, Eddie Dowl Fight Here

Richmond Times  
By Mickie Magruder

The first of three six-round bouts that will support a pair of 10-round main events on the annual Police Show boxing card at Mooers Field Thursday night, June 21, was announced last night when Matchmaker Chris Dundee informed Police Chief Organ that he had signed hard-hitting Billy Banks, Negro lightweight from Washington, D. C., to meet Eddie Dowl, a dusky fighter out of Newark, N. J.

With Frankie Wills and Danny McMillan matched for one of the 10-rounders and Bobby Ruffin slated to engage Tommy Mills in the other feature bout, this leaves only two more six-round events to be arranged to complete the card. 6-9-45

Banks and Dowl both boast creditable records, and although the Newark boy has never shown here, Banks proved to be a crowd-pleaser on the 1943 police card when he disposed of Richmond's Willie Green by a knockout in the third round.

Banks had Green completely at his mercy in the final round, and

as rain spattered onto the canvas, he abruptly ended the show for the night by landing a Sunday punch that sent the crowd home abruptly.

The Negro has scored knockouts over Louis Oterno, Ricardo Clementi, Clyde English and Green, and has an imposing list of decisions on his ring record.

Among his conquerors are Harry Jeffra, who won a decision over Banks in 1943; Ruffin, who beat him a year earlier, and a knockout at the hands of Chalky Wright two years ago. 6-9-45

Dowl has been fighting professionally since 1939 and is said to be a ringwise Negro with a lot of punch for a lightweight.

He has seen most of his action in the New York-New Jersey area. He started out as a pro in his first year by scoring on kayos in his only two starts and has been coming along fast against good opponents.

Chief Organ said yesterday that tickets in the higher price scale are continuing to sell rapidly, with the fights still nearly two weeks off, and predicted an attendance that will compare favorably with other years.

# Reinforced Backbone No Drawback To Fighter-Artist in and Out of Ring

By Harry Chandler

Milwaukee, May 13 (AP).—The thing that makes Jimmy Sherrer an unusual boxer is his reinforced backbone.

If he didn't have it, the 19-year-old Milwaukee Negro welterweight would have no future in the beak-busting business. As a matter of fact, he wouldn't be alive today.

Stricken with tuberculosis of the spine in his early youth, his recovery was doubted. Then a surgeon, gambling against long odds, grafted a portion of Jimmy's shinbone to his spine, giving the youngster a new lease on life—and a reinforced backbone. 5-14-45

The road to complete recovery was long and tough but the boy was determined to get well, if for no other reason than to be able to study art. He spent many hours during his period of hospitalization sketching with pencil and pen and ink. People said he had talent.

When he was well enough to go back to school, the doctors advised exercise in mild form, something to help strengthen his leg muscles.

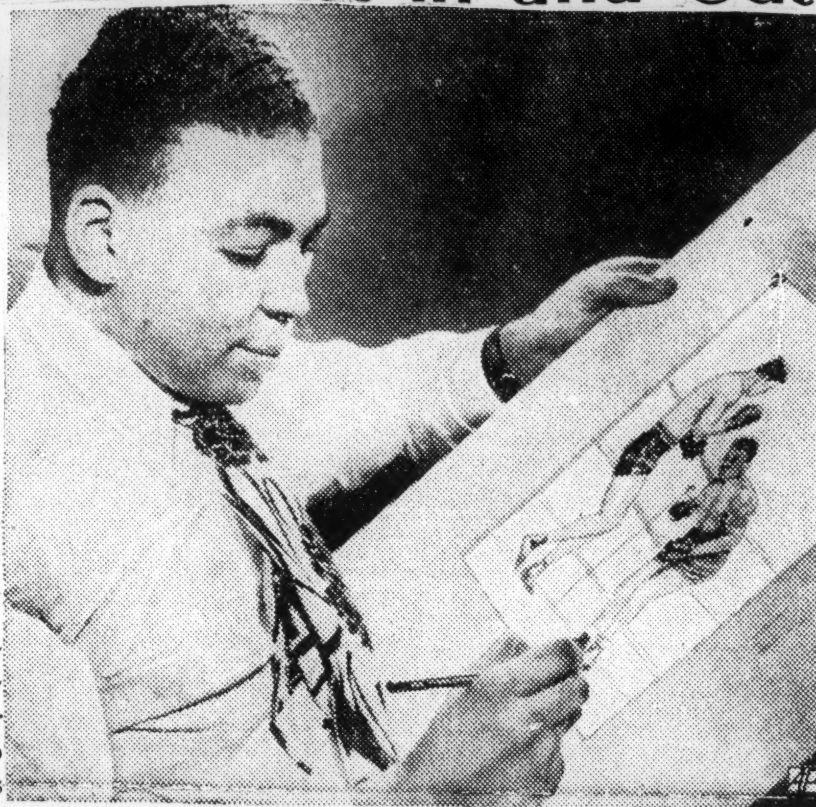
That was when Jimmy found out he could box. He took to the sport naturally, soon becoming the best boxer in his class. He was an outstanding competitor in the 1943

Milwaukee district Golden Gloves tournament as a novice and the following year he went to the finals of the Chicago tournament of champions before he was beaten.

Last summer Sherrer turned professional under the tutelage of Joey Sangor, one of the Nation's top-notch featherweights of the 20's.

In Chicago February 2 he flattened Jackie Gaines of Cleveland three times and Gaines was unable to answer the bell at the start of the fourth round.

With the competition getting progressively tougher, Sherrer has been moving right along, developing ring acumen to go with his punching ability. He's young, strong and willing and ringwise veterans, Sangor included, believe he's going places. 5-24-45



Jimmy Sherrer proves he's equally capable with pen or pencil as he is in the boxing ring. Stricken with tuberculosis of the spine, he had a shinbone grafted to his backbone.

Sherrer is in the fight game because he loves the thrill of competition but hasn't forgotten a couple of promises he made to himself in the dark days when he was desperately ill. First of all, he wants to repay the Milwaukee children's hospital. After that, he hopes to enter art school.



82d-1945

# Kid Chocolate, Minus Legs, Still Champion

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN

PORTSMOUTH — The Army career of "Kid Chocolate," now a legless war veteran, brought out the same courage and heroism that stamped him in fistic annals as one of the greatest lightweight champions in boxing history.

Listed in military records byjoin the infantry in the desperate his real name, Cpl. Travers A. P. missions of holding back the Henry, 44 Prospect avenue, Bryn counter-attacking krauts. Mawr, Pa. Kid Chocolate told this "They were tough, grim days," reporter of the highlights in his said Cpl. Henry. "The jerries tried hectic Army career, which has their best to drive us back into left him a hospital patient with the sea. . . . 8-11-45 no legs and multiple battle scars.

## HURT BY MINE

Cpl. Henry, then in an anti-air- It was during those bleak days craft battalion, went in with the of Salerno that Cpl. Henry "got first troops invading North Africa it." An anti-personnel mine went in November 1942. In the landing off and shrapnel ripped his legs operations he was wounded in and body. For a day and a half the head by fragments from a he lay out there in that battle inferno known as "no man's land." French 75mm shell.

"And if it hadn't been for my steel helmet," says Cpl. Henry "I wouldn't have had any head left— The shrapnel ripped up the helmet something awful but I escaped with wounds that were not too serious." 8-11-45

Then came the Tunisian campaign, and the battles of Casserine Pass and "Hill 609." In this campaign Cpl. Henry was hit in the body by machine gun bullets and had to go to the hospital again— this time for several months.

After recovering from his second wounds, the tough little corporal was placed in the 28th Quartermaster Regiment.

With this outfit Cpl. Henry fought through the Sicilian campaign. In those days the German army was tough and well-supplied and the Nazi air force was in its hey-day. As a member of the "Fighting Quartermasters" Cpl. Henry had several trucks "shot from under him" by strafing German planes.

But even at this time the toughest days of the war were still ahead for the plucky corporal. General Mark W. Clark had already made plans for his famous Fifth Army to invade Italy, Salerno!

The first bloody days of the landings at Salerno found Cpl. Henry's outfit in the thick of the battle. He was with men of the famed "Suicide Squad," composed of soldiers who volunteered to drive their trucks, loaded with ammunition, gasoline and other supplies, right up into the front positions. Sometimes the soldiers had to leave their vehicles and

## Kid Chocolate

in Liverpool, England, in January, 1942. While in Liverpool he participated in several exhibition bouts. Not Fisk, Va.

## FIRST CASUALTY

When injured in the North African invasion, Cpl. Henry was told that he was the first Negro soldier to win the Purple Heart.

At present he holds the Purple Heart with two oakleaf clusters and three campaign ribbons.

I talked with Cpl. Henry at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Washington, at St. Julien's Creek, where he was a recent visitor.

## ARTIFICIAL LEGS

He now hobbles around on two artificial legs. These new limbs are now being properly adjusted. He has to return to the hospital for further treatment and he does not know when he will be discharged.

There are still fifty or sixty pieces of shrapnel in various parts of my body," he said.

What will he do after the war? "I hadn't thought much about it. I think I'll just take it easy at first—just relax. . . ."

## RECALLS EXPERIENCES

Despite his war-torn body which is a constant reminder of the terror that is modern combat, Kid Chocolate seems to get a kick out of recalling the highlights of his battle career. He talks freely about the death struggle at Casserine Pass and Hill 609. He tells about those rough days when he and his comrades had to drink water from the radiators of their trucks. . . and had to shave with coffee. . . because the Germans had poisoned the waterholes.

In fact, Kid Chocolate (or Cpl. Henry, as you prefer) seemed more inclined to talk about his experiences in North Africa and Italy than about the ring battles which brought him world fame before the war.

## STARTED AT SIX

How long had he been fighting? "Well, I started when I was six years old and I've been at it ever since. . . ."

What was his toughest fight? "I think my toughest fight was with Benny Bass in '32 in Philadelphia. . . ."

## GREAT CHAMP

Does he think Joe Louis will successfully defend his title after the war? "Yes, Joe is still a great fighter. During a recent visit at my hospital, Joe told me that he is going to fight until he is licked. . . ."

So goes the story of Kid Chocolate, who is known in Army circles as Cpl. Travers A. P. Henry. He

stepped from the prize ring into World War II. And his war record shows that he is still one of the greatest champions of all.



"KID" CHOCOLATE

## AWFUL MISSISSIPPI

Cpl. Henry was drafted in 1941 and took his basic training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He did not like it down there.

"Mississippi is a terrible place," he says. "The white folks down there used to beat up the colored soldiers every time they got a chance. They'd even pull us off army trucks to assault us. . . I'd rather be overseas any day than to be in Mississippi. . . ."

## IN LIVERPOOL

Cpl. Henry was in the first contingent of colored soldiers to land



82d-1945

# In This Corner... Lil Arthur

Sixty-seven-year-old Jack Johnson, ex-heavyweight champion of the world and one of the most picturesque figures in American sports history, appeared the other night at a War Bond boxing show at the Broadway Arena in Brooklyn. To do so, he had to take off a few hours from another engagement, at Hubert's Museum on W. 42d St., where he answers questions about fighting at hourly intervals from around 3 in the afternoon to 10 p.m.

He is booked at Hubert's only until the end of this week, although the owner has an option for renewal of his two-week contract. Meanwhile, the huge and still impressive looking ex-champion—the only Negro world heavyweight champion before Joe Louis—says:

"I'm making good money here. I'm not complaining."

Since Pearl Harbor, Jack has been touring Army camps and hospitals, under Red Cross auspices, to speak to the men and lecture on fighting. He is still praised in boxing circles as one of the world's greatest defensive fighters and perhaps the greatest heavyweight of all times.

## Won Title in 1910

He won the championship from Jim Jeffries in July, 1910, knocking Jeffries out in the 15th round after a grueling fight in an open amphitheater under a hot sun.

Jeffries had at first refused to fight Johnson, drawing the color line, and finally retired from the ring to avoid fighting him. He let the title go to Marvin Hart, who lost it to Tommy Burns who, in turn, tried to avoid meeting Johnson.

Jack followed Burns to England, then to Australia, where he finally forced the title-holder to meet him. He defeated him easily. Thereafter, Jefferies came out of retirement to meet "Lil Arthur," as the sports writers called him—his full name is John Arthur Johnson—and the famous bout at Reno, in which Jack nailed the championship, followed.

Visitors to Hubert's Museum this week can get in to ask Jack questions about fighting for only 12 cents. The "Museum" is a venerable institution, situated in the middle of the block between Seventh and Eighth Aves. It features a penny arcade and shooting gallery on the street floor and

the flea circus and sideshow attractions downstairs.

Johnson comes out of a small dressing-room off a platform downstairs and is introduced by a master of ceremonies. When he answers questions, his low, husky voice carries easily through the long rectangular room.

The crowd that comes downstairs to see him is mostly out-of-towners, men outnumbering the women by 10 to 1. A half-dozen of the 50 persons who were there the afternoon we dropped in were wearing uniforms. They stood bunched together in front of the platform, calling out questions to the m.c. who repeated them in a louder voice to Johnson, who is quite deaf in one ear, the result of pneumonia a few years ago.

Jack smiled a lot, his teeth flashing, his bald head shining.

He carries none of the usual marks of the professional fighter—no cauliflower ears or banged-up nose. His tremendous bulk still is something to wonder at, particularly in a man of 67. He stands erect, his head high, and his brown-checked, tweed jacket, large as it was, looked too small for him.

## In Condition

To demonstrate his condition when a gray-haired man in the audience asked how he was feeling, he thumped his stomach and chest hard. It sounded as if he were beating a drum.

"Conn," Johnson said in reply to a question, "is a tough hitter. He might get a decision with Joe Louis. But he couldn't knock him out. They're both in the Army now. I would say the boy who takes better care of himself will come out better."

He thought for a moment when a boy wanted to know who had the hardest right, Schmeling or Baer.

"Baer was a very good hitter," Jack replied reflectively. "I've seen better fighters."

The crowd laughed. A girl in slacks asked, how he'd avoided scars.

"Why haven't I got any scars?" he repeated, chuckling. "That's the mystery of the world. But I'll tell you—it's my stance."

And Jack took a few steps, dancing lightly as if in the ring. He looked for a minute as if he really were in a ring. He kept his arms in close to his body and moved as lightly as a ballet dancer, taking small, deliberate and graceful steps.

When his time was up, and the crowd moved along, some of them

# Jack Johnson- Boxing

inside to the little room in which Prof. Roy Heckler displayed his trained fleas in a white, felt-covered table, Jack walked into his dressing-room just off the platform.

"No," he said, "I don't want to talk about the past. What's the use of digging things up?"

He shook his head at a question about the famous fight in 1915 at Havana in which he lost the championship to Jess Willard, after 26 rounds.

## Faced Arrest

At the time, he was facing arrest in the U. S. A. In an autobiography written in 1927, Jack said he lost the fight because he had been promised that trumped-up Mann Act charges against him would be dropped, if he did. He also wanted to come back home to see his mother, who was seriously ill.

She died before he could get to her, however, and Jack served a term in Leavenworth, anyway.

Although Johnson, in his day, encountered lots of prejudice from people who didn't like the idea that the heavyweight championship was held by a Negro, he only shrugged his shoulders at a question about it.

"Things are much better now," he said. "There used to be places where a colored person just couldn't live—now they live and work there, too." He never uses the word *Negro*.

"I'm an African-American," he explained, "and that's the correct term. My ancestors came from Africa, just like the ancestors of other Americans came from other places all over the world."

Jack, whose travels took him all over the world—England, France, Russia, Spain, Mexico, Australia—says he wonders how the people in those places are today.

"Whatever happened," he said, "they all know the meaning of the word *democracy* now. We've reached that crossing. That means something to me. I've spent 50 years of my life as a self-appointed ambassador trying to get fair play for all, regardless of who they are or where they come from. I'm still trying."

The writer was the only Negro reporter on hand among that vast throng of ancient and modern champions and near champions and world-famous writers. There were such names around as Abe Attell, Ed (Strangler) Lewis, Stanislaus Zybyszko, Damon Runyon, Jim Hurley, Vincent Richards, Joe DiMaggio, Zulu Kid, Joe O'Batt, Frankie Genaro, Jimmy Powers, Johnny Dundee, Tom Early, Ed Van Every, Frank Erne, Alice Lord Landon, Tommy Loughran, Allison Danzig, Lou Little, Jeremiah T. Ma-Reed, Ted Meredith, Gen. John Reed, Kilpatrick, Kid Herman, Knockout Brown, Soldier Barfield, Jim Raftery, Eddie Walker, David Walsh, Dave Morgan, Irving Jaffee, Bob Considine, Johnny Hayes, Chick Meehan, Young Otto, Nat Hokman, George Bothner, Kid Alberts, in fact, so many that there is not space here to mention them. It was more than a major event in the current Victory Loan Drive. It was a stirring tribute to the men and women who have made America's sports the premier entertainment fare of the entire world.

# Jack Johnson Vs. Joe Jeannette,

## Time: Dec. 1945; Result: Draw

New York Amsterdam News  
By DAN BURLEY  
(Photo On Back Page)  
New York, N.Y.  
12-8-45

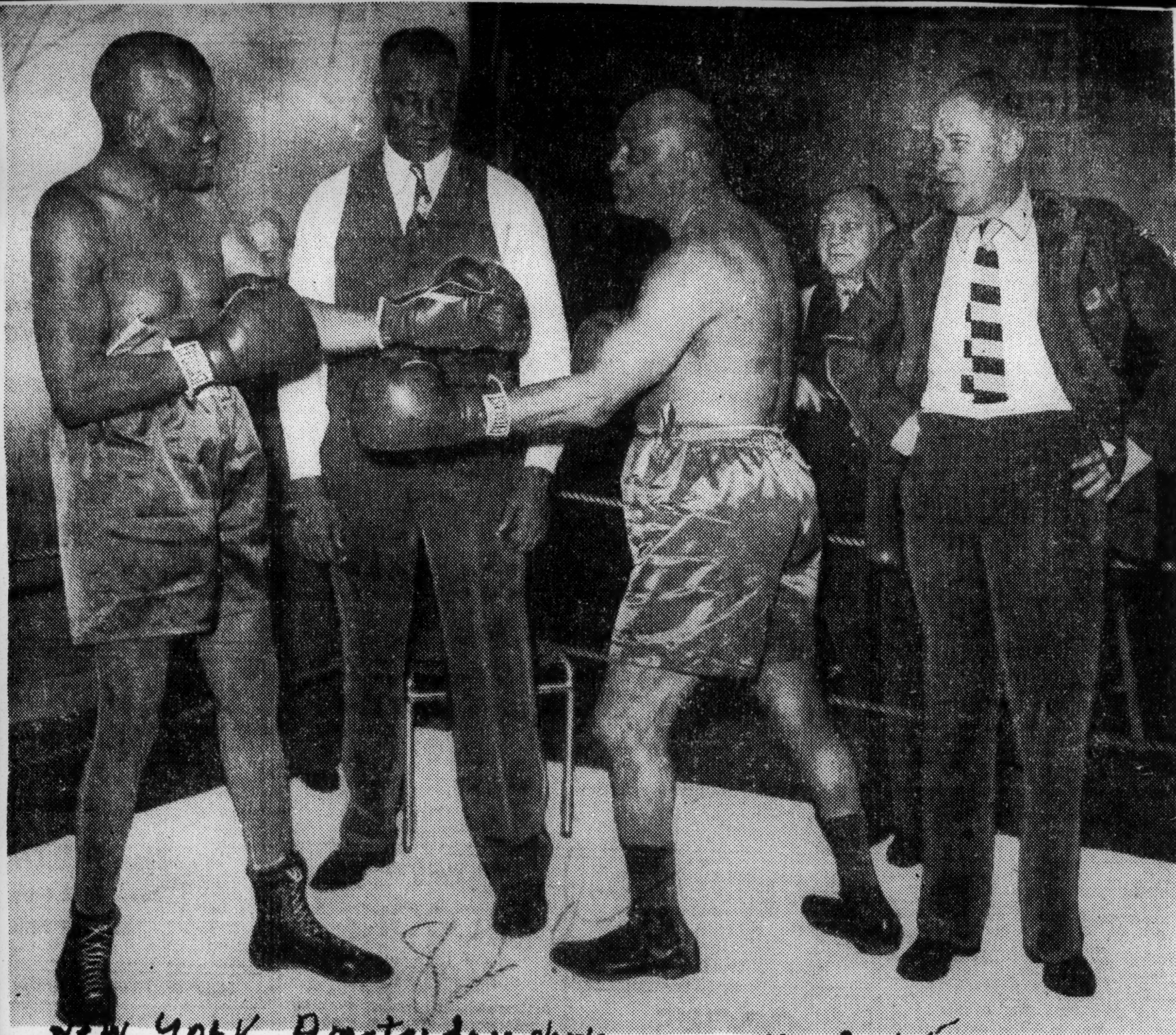
From Boxing's Well of Memories, Monday afternoon, Nov. 26, came three ancient whose names are legendary in the squared circle, who are spoken of in awe by today's Patent Leather Kids and whose exploits are revered by hoary-haired fans who saw 'em all since the turn of the century. To the ballroom of 57th Street's Henry Hudson Hotel came the Three, Jack Johnson, Joe Jeannette and Harry Wills, and to dramatize their appearance, Johnson and Jeannette, names with which to conjure when they were in their prime, staged a three two-minute round exhibition with Wills as the referee!

Believe it or not, there they were, the first Negro to hold the world's the heavyweight championship and has met with such signal success, Wills as referee also lent color to the game as the greatest fighting man ever lived, in there with another great, his contemporary, Joe sports and the Barbados Demon, Jeannette, whose 20 odd jousts with old Sam Langford made boxing history. And there was a slyness about it all as if only for sentimental re-creation. Newsreel cameras ground the two elders of the ring put on sons. an exhibition of boxing craft that playfully a bit, but also showed over the house. Forgotten was the made the 1,500 spectators gasp in some of the science that made their excellent seven course dinner, the names household words in the vo-cigars and the pleasure of shaking cabularies of boxing fans every-hands with this old-timer and that where. Many of the crowd on hand old pal. Here was Jack Johnson Victory Loan Luncheon Rally and had only heard of them or had and Joe Jeannette in a ring actual-Sports Parade engineered insofar as seen them in later life. Nonely trading punches with Harry Wills the sports end of it was concerned dreamed they would be given the-refereeing.

It was the Austin, Nichols & Co. where. Many of the crowd on hand old pal. Here was Jack Johnson Victory Loan Luncheon Rally and had only heard of them or had and Joe Jeannette in a ring actual-Sports Parade engineered insofar as seen them in later life. Nonely trading punches with Harry Wills the sports end of it was concerned dreamed they would be given the-refereeing.

In the audience were names to





*NEW YORK Amsterdam News*  
**RINGDOM'S ANCIENTS IN MODERN SET-**

**TING:** Jack Johnson, (photo above, left to right) now 67 years old and former world's heavyweight champ (1908-15), fought a three two-minute round exhibition bout with his contemporary of the good old days, Joe Jeannette, the Barbados Demon, at Henry Hudson Hotel, Nov. 27. Also shown in photo are Harry Wills, noted

*12-8-45*  
heavyweight title contender who was turned down twice by Jack Dempsey after contracts had been drawn up; and Clem Boddington of Austin & Nichols, the former sports cartoonist for the Washington Post, Brooklyn Eagle, Times and Standard Union and Miami Herald. Clem introduced the gladiators and served as emcee at the Austin & Nichols Victory Loan luncheon and sports show.



82d-1945

Joe Louis

## Suit by Wife of Joe Louis Chicago Daily Tribune Continued Until Tuesday

A divorce suit by Mrs. Marva Trotter Louis, 27, a Negro singer, against Sgt. Joe Louis, 30, world's heavyweight boxing champion, was continued yesterday by Judge John A. Sbarbaro in Superior court until next Tuesday. Louis' attorney, Joseph Clayton Jr., was unable to appear yesterday. Sgt. and Mrs. Louis were married Sept. 24, 1935, and separated Oct. 2, 1943. Her suit charges him with desertion.

## Sect. Of War Stimson

## Turns Down Request New York Age To Commission Louis

Hope that the War Department would commission Sgt. Joseph Louis Barrow, known to sports fans the world over as Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, were blasted this week with disclosure that this would be contrary to the War Department's policy.

On March 6th, at the request of several organizations, Congressman A. C. Powell, jr., wrote an open letter to President Roosevelt urging a commission for Joe Louis, since so many other famous sports figures have commissions in the Navy and Army.

On March 17th, Secretary of War Stimson said the letter had been referred to him for answer and wrote that in October, 1943, "I issued instructions which discontinued all direct appointments in the Army except to rare categories of individuals, such as pilots, doctors, chaplains and dentists."

For this reason, the Secretary of War said, the giving of a direct commission to Sgt. Barrow would be in direct contravention to his instructions.

Declaring that he believes a special exception should be made for Sgt. Louis, Congressman Powell said he was urging sports fans, sports editors, and American citizens, both Negro and white, "to write to the President and Mr. Stimson asking them to consider Mr. Louis for a commission of at least the grade of Captain."

Step right up and call him technical sergeant sir. Here Joe Louis sits on his bunk at Camp Shanks, N. Y., and sews on the new chevrons denoting his advancement one more notch in GI ranks. Said Joe: "I'm very happy as an enlisted man and want to remain that way." The champ, back from overseas, now is in the New York Port of Embarkation, stationed temporarily.

Sergeant Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion now doing physical fitness and morale work at Camp Shanks, N.Y., philosophized the way has "got to do some good. . . . If everybody come out of the war with the new friend like he never had before, that's a lot." Reminded of the money he might have made in civilian life from the 97 bouts he has staged for overseas troops, he observed: "Heck, lots of soldiers have give up a lot more than Joe Louis have."

## Watcha Know, Joe?

I see where the Army has shipped Sgt. Joe Louis to Stapleton, S. I., for temporary duty in the area where, the United Press reports, "a crime wave has prevailed lately."

The assign-

ment of Louis is fact: the crime wave is bunk. (PM, April 2, 45). What Louis is being sent over there for is to



help in connection with an accelerated sports program for the 3000 Negro troops, being trained for stevedore work, who now are without adequate facilities for recreation.

Assigned with Joe are Sgt. Ruby Goldstein, the fight referee; Pvt. Petey Scalzo, ex-bantamweight champion; and Cpl. Melio Betting, ex-light-heavyweight champion.

It will be their job to set up outdoor boxing shows, the first to take place April 6. The new athletic program probably will be whipped in shape by Sgt. Goldstein, who, with the other three soldiers, has been doing that for outbound and inbound wounded men at Camp Shanks in New Jersey.

Getting back to the bunk part of this story for a moment, I quote from yesterday's paper that there have been a total of 13 arrests among the Negro GIs since the cantonment has been operating.

There has been one case of criminal assault involving a white woman, but on that there has been official disagreement as to whether a Negro was responsible.

It could be that the Army, realizing that the GIs have the bad name whether they've had the game or not, are taking this new step with a view to providing the sort of entertainment any GIs like. Actually, the need has been there long before the "scare stories" and the Army may just now be getting around to supply that needed recreation.

For example, a service club is needed. Facilities for dances and other social clubs aren't available. At the moment, the nearest recreation center is the well-equipped Booker T. Washington Center in Stapleton, three-quarters of a mile distant. It was just 10 days ago that an Army bus was provided to return the GIs to Fox Hills at night.

Joe told me when he came back from his trip overseas where he showed to nearly 750,000 troops of all races and creeds—that he had a gag he used to work every time he'd go into the various Army guard houses.

"If I'd see a Negro boy there," Joe would say in that slow way of his, "I'd look at him and then say: 'If you're here when I come back, I'll hand you a little taste of punchin' you won't forget. It got so it worked so well that I'd say it to all the boys there—white or colored. They'd grin, but I understand they got out of there as quick as they could and stayed out.'"

Crime wave, hell, say I. Louis is a great influence on everyone he

meets and he'll do a job no matter what. I'd hate to think the Army is using Joe as a big stick. And if I know Joe, I'm sure he doesn't feel that way about it either.

## Decree Granted Chicago Tribune

Mrs. Marva Trotter Barrow, 29, wife of Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion now serving as an army sergeant, was granted a divorce yesterday after she testified that the former fighter deserted her on Oct. 2, 1943.

Superior Judge John A. Sbarbaro, who heard the case, failed in an attempt to reconcile the case. Both Louis, who made a surprise appearance in court, and his wife assured the court that they did not wish their marriage to continue any longer. Judge Sbarbaro warned them that the divorce would mean adverse publicity but the couple were adamant.

The court approved an outside settlement of cash and property for Mrs. Barrow and \$200 a month for support of the couple's child, Jacqueline, 2. Mrs. Barrow won custody of the child, altho Louis is to be allowed custody two months each year. A \$10,000 educational fund will also be set up for the girl.

Here's an exclusive item hot off the griddle: Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion will appear here at the municipal auditorium Jan. 14.

Louis will appear as an entertainer and not as a sports attraction, headlining a great number of Negro attractions booked for presentation at the auditorium by the Southeastern Artists.

Among the other headliners who will be coming this way during the rest of this month, December, January and through April are Jimmy Lunceford, Bill Bojangles Robinson, noted dancer; Duke Ellington, Louis Jordan, Lucky Millinder, who will be the New Year's feature; the King Kote Trio, Ella Fitzgerald, who plays an engagement Thanksgiving night; Billy Eckstine, Buddy Jordan and Eddie Vincent.

In appearing under the auspices of the Southeastern Artists, it is likely that Louis will appear on the same card with one of the top Negro bands. It also is likely that he will present a few flash bouts with opponents who are making the tour in his company, preparatory to his championship fight this summer with Billy Conn.

The Joe Louis On Air  
Bob Wachman wires from Hollywood that Joe Louis will initiate his training for the fight with Conn next June by being matched with Jack Benny in a bloodless battle of words on the Benny broadcast at 6 p.m. next Sunday over N.B.C. . . . This will be Joe's first radio appearance since his discharge from the Army. . . . He picked the song Larry Stevens will sing on the program—"I'll Do It Over Agani"—because, he said, "That'll be my own theme song next June."



# The Original Guy Named Joe

*P.M. N.Y. N.Y.*  
I had a chance to pass a few hours with Sgt. Joe Louis yesterday at the Children's Unity Festival at Horace Mann Auditorium and had the chance, too, to marvel anew at the stuff that makes him The Champ, in more ways than one.



Nat Holman and myself were old hands at this unity affair, having helped take the pledge of tolerance with many of the same kids a year ago and we have come to know that sports is a great equalizer in neighborhood squabbles. The kid that break out because Aaron's a Jew or Jimmy's a Negro or Mike's an Eyetalian or Johnny goes to the Roman Catholic Church and such *2-23-45*

The Citizen's Committee of the Upper West Side, which recognizes such conditions exist in neighborhoods, realizes, too, that all the speech-making and pretty words won't do a thing about changing it.

But when these kids, gathered together on common ground and seeing with their own eyes that there is a real live thing which is Democracy, it means something. Seeing, for example, Joe Louis in person and hearing him talk to them and seeing him sit beside Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and such is a truly fine lesson in visual education. And one the kids can understand.

I leave such study for the socially minded however, not that I ain't, but it's a pattern our sociologists might do well to follow or at least take a look at if we're ever going to do something constructive about the Aarons and Jimmys and Mikes and Johnnys I spoke of.

I'm here to speak of Joe today and give you an idea of the stuff the big world's heavyweight champ with the sloe-eyes and the now-wide grin (remember when he was Deadpan Joe?) has been doing in this man's Army. *2-23-45*

You know, of course, about his long tour of duty in the theaters of war and how he boxed for countless thousands of the GI's. Well, he's back here now, stationed at Camp Shanks and helping Special Services out no end.

You see him now at the college basketball games and at the fights and at hockey and at everything sporting. And where once he knew only that he shouldn't lead with

his right, he now has developed into a master mind in what have come to be known as sports clinics.

Lt. Duke Slohm, an old Buffalo pal o' mine, and Lt. Lou Krem, ex-Notre Dame, squired Sgt. Joe in from Camp Shanks yesterday, courtesy of Colonel H. D. W. Riley, CO at Shanks, and while Joe was listening to the happy squeals of the kids and talking to them in the way only he can talk, I learned a little from the loots about his work. *2-23-45*

Joe's time belongs to the GI's heading out. He might walk into a meeting where one or two thousand of the boys are getting ready to shove. The one thing that always puts them on a common level is talk of sports.

As I've said, Joe was from hunger in all other sports when he became heavyweight champ. But since then he has developed a wonderful finesse and a truly trip-hammer mind for all sports questions.

The kids give him the oldies about who could lick who and pretty soon everyone's in. Gone are the thoughts that they'll soon be pushing off. They're more interested now in how many homers Babe Ruth hit in a world series game. And don't think Joe doesn't know.

He likes to see the GI's get the best of him but, according to his superior officers, this doesn't happen often. Matter of fact, he sometimes hangs it on them. Only as late as Wednesday, he took Brooklyn College and 15 points against CCNY plus St. John's and 2 points against NYU in a friendly little bet with some officers. *2-23-45*

"Friendly hell," said one. "He beat us on both of them!"

Joe's pudgy around the jowls—mostly from lack of real training work which was his every-day stint when he held the title. And probably, too, because he overworks the muscles that control his smiles these days.

He's as happy a fellow as ever I saw, happy mostly because while he thinks it's not much, the work he's doing goes over big with the GI's heading out. Which doesn't surprise the GI's at all because, as they all put it: "He's our kind of guy!" *2-23-45*

Sure he'd like to be defending his title soon and will, too, if the years don't go by too fast. And

when he says, "You know there's a war on," it's like you never heard it said before. On Joe Louis it looks good. —JOE CUMMISKEY



*Memphis World*  
CHAMP AT DAYTON, OHIO—In spirited conversation with Sergeant Joe Louis on his visit to Aircraft Radio Laboratories at Wright Field before the boxing champ headed for Canada are, reading from left to right: Elven Taylor, head

*Memphis Tennes.*  
janitor; Carolyn Parker, Physicist in the Communication and Navigation Laboratory; and Wanda Shelton, messenger in the Systems Engineering Laboratory. (Army Air Forces photo from BPR). *7-21-45*

## Louis Calls His Shot: *P.M. New York, New York 10-24-45* He'll Chill Conn Again

Joe Predicts Bill Will Lose His Head; 'Just Like The Last Time'

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 24.—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis predicts that he will "flatten" Billy Conn when they meet in a title bout next June.

"I think he'll lose his head, just like the last time," Louis grinned, "and I'll flatten him." Recently released from the Army, Louis plans to relax with golf rounds and radio appearances for two months or so, and a few refereeing assignments.

"Billy was the best fighter I met," the Brown Bomber said. "He could do everything but clout. He was giving me a tough whipping, too, but he didn't keep his head. He tried to knock me out and I flattened him in the 13th." Louis referred to their match on June 18, 1941.

Louis, who will be 32 when he meets 29-year-old Conn again, had an answer to Jack Dempsey's comment on his chances.

"Whatever I lost in the Army, Billy lost also. My legs feel good and I punch as hard as ever. He's still the same cocky guy. He'll do it again, and so will I. Besides, I was trained too fine for that last Conn fight."

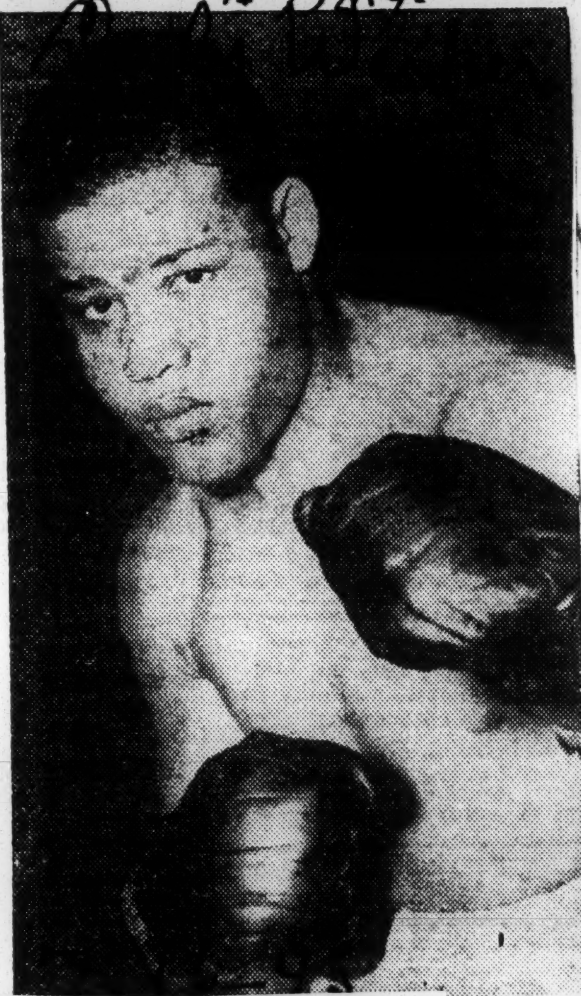


82d-1945

# To Whom It May Concern

A  
Suggestion!  
How  
About  
Letting  
Joe  
Louis  
Re-educate  
Max  
Schmeling?

Respectfully  
submitted,  
NAT LOW.



## Louis to Stay in Till V-J Day

Sgt. Joe Louis is denying rumors that he is about to be honorably discharged from the army. The Brown Bomber, visiting relatives on furlough in Detroit, pointed out that he has only 7 points, 14 short of the number required for discharge. And he said he doesn't expect the Army to make him a special case.

"I want to stay in anyway," Louis said, "until it's over."

7-14-45

## Louis, Lesnevich, Cochrane Tops In NBA Ratings

WASHINGTON, July 21.—(AP)—Three championship fights are in the making to climax the outdoor season, Abe J. Greene, president of the National Boxing Association, said this week.

In announcing the quarterly NBA ratings, Greene said that Sal Bartola, featherweight; Ike Williams, lightweight; and Manuel Ortiz, bantam, probably will defend their respective titles shortly. Ortiz recently was released from the Army.

### THE RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHT—Champion, Joe Louis, Army; logical contenders, Billy Conn, Army. Outstanding boxers, Jimmy Blins, Ohio; Mollie Bettina, Army; Tami Mauriello, New York; Joe Baksi, Pennsylvania; Lee Oma, Michigan; Elmer Ray, Florida; Johnny Flynn, Army.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT—Champion, Gus Lesnevich, Coast Guard; logical contender, Archie Moore, Missouri; Freddie Mills, England.

MIDDLEWEIGHT—Champion, Tony Zale, Navy; logical contenders, George

## Joe Louis

Abrams, Navy; Jacob La Motta, New York; Holman Williams, Michigan; Charlie Burley, Pennsylvania; Jose Basora, Puerto Rico; Joe Carter, New York.

WELTERWEIGHT—Champion, Freddie Red Cochrane, New Jersey; logical contenders, Ray Robinson, New York; Rocky Graziano, New York.

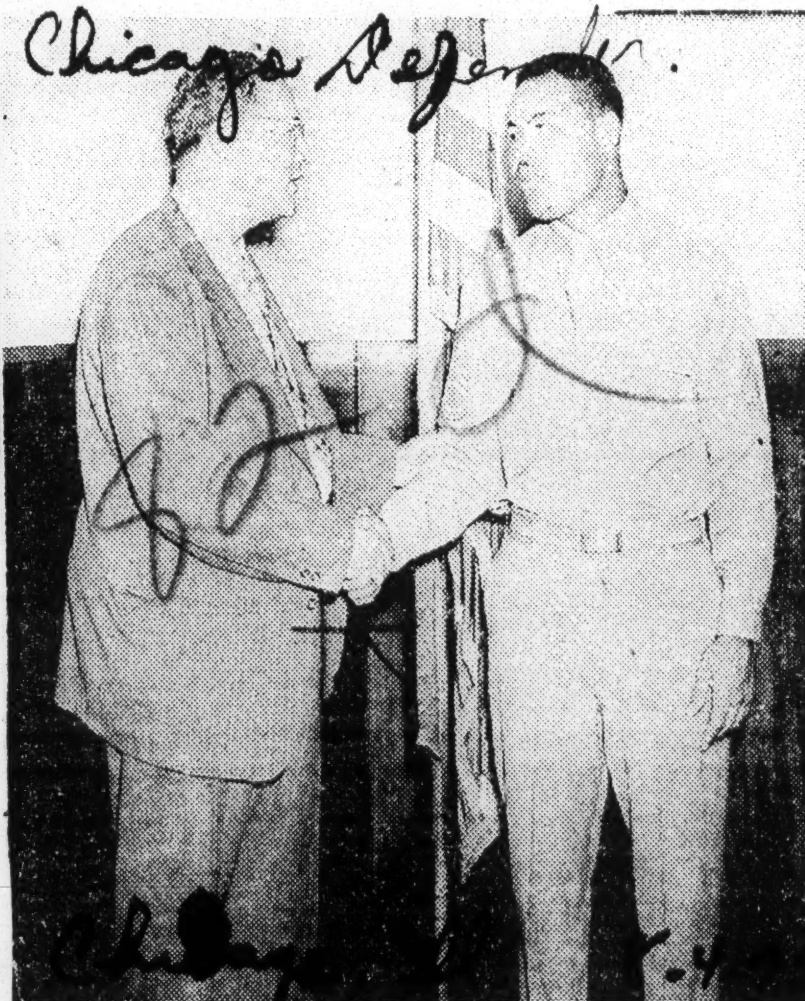
LIGHTWEIGHT—Champion, Ike Williams, New Jersey; logical contenders, Beau Jack, Army; Bob Montgomery, Army; Willie Joyce, Illinois; Bobby Ruffin, New York.

FEATHERWEIGHT—Champion, Sal Bartola, Maritime Service; logical contender, Willie Pep, Connecticut.

BANTAMWEIGHT—Champion, Manuel Ortiz, California; logical contenders, Kuei Kong Young, Hawaii; Tony Olivera, California.

FLYWEIGHT—Champion, Jackie Patterson, England; logical contenders, Joe Curran, England; Dado Marino, Hawaii; Norman Lewis, England.

## IT'S SHERIFF JOE LOUIS NOW!



Sgt. Joe Louis, pictured above with Petry Fisher, was sworn in as deputy sheriff of Wayne County, Mich., on Friday of last week. The ceremony took place in the Wayne County jail with Sheriff Andrew C. Baird officiating. Fisher, himself a deputy sheriff, was the first Negro appointed on Michigan's boxing commission. Sergeant Louis will assume his duties after the war.

Time New York N.Y. 10-1-43

Sergeant Joe Louis received the Legion of Merit medal for treating two million G.I.s to several million dollars worth of his pugilistic skill. Said Major General Clarence H. Kells: "You have made one of the greatest contributions to the reconditioning program for veterans. . . ." Said the laconic champion: "Sir, I am sincerely grateful." (Joe gently chided a youngster who asked him how he licked Max Schmeling: "Remember, little fellow, he beat me too.")

## Louis Gets Discharge; Louisville, Kentucky Plans Rest

10-2-45

Camp Shanks, N. Y., Oct. 1 (U.P.)—Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, was released from the Army at Camp Shanks today.

The way thus was cleared for a return match between Louis and Billy Conn, probably next summer. Conn recently was discharged from the Army on points at Camp Lee, Va.



Louis

Louis, now 31 years old, had been in the Army since January of 1942, and has entertained more than 2,500,000 men by giving exhibition bouts in Europe, Alaska, the Aleutians, Canada and the United States.

He appeared in battle areas in Europe, and wears two battle stars. He was technical sergeant at the time of his honorable discharge.

He said he expected to visit his home at Detroit for a rest, but did not know whether he would engage in any "tune-up" contests before meeting Conn. If he does not, it was believed that he would appear in exhibition bouts.



# Jacobs Seeks Foreign Talent For Louis Battle in U.S.A.

New York, Aug. 16 (INS).—Plans for an international fight tour by Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, were under way today at the Twentieth Century Sporting Club.

Mike Jacobs, promoter of the Twentieth Century, today completed arrangements with his attorney, Sol Strauss, for the latter to make a trip to Europe in the near future. Strauss will make a survey of overseas ring possibilities, including the chances for international bouts with such European fight notables as Bruce Woodcock, newly-crowned British heavyweight champion; Marcel Cerdan, French middleweight, and British light heavyweight Freddie Mill.

Sergeant Louis, now stationed at Camp Shanks, N. Y., is the outstanding boxer in a field of champions and name fighters who will be among the 5,500,000 men discharged from the services in the next 18 months.

(An International News Service dispatch from Washington said that headline athletes will receive no preference whatever for discharge. Many sports stars are now recreation officers and as such occupy important posts in the services and may be required to remain for an indefinite length of time.)

In revealing plans for the projected overseas tour, Jacobs emphasized that Louis' first fight after his discharge will be the long-heralded meeting with Billy Conn.

"And that is one fight that will take place right here in the USA," Jacobs said. "The Louis-Conn title bout belongs to the United States."

The Louis-Conn battle is tentatively planned for next June, and may well produce the first three-million-dollar gate in fight history. New York's Yankee Stadium is the favored spot for the match, but even the Stadium, which might house 95,000 fight fans by some means or other, would be far too small for the anticipated attendance.

Conn is now with the Army in France. Other United States champions and star fighters in service awaiting discharge include Fritzie Zivic, Bob Montgomery, Sal Bartolo, Gus Lesnevich, Beau Jack and Tony Zale.

## JOE LOUIS, BOXER, HONORED BY ARMY

Legion of Merit Presented for  
His Exhibitions in Camps  
Here and Overseas

There was a medal for Joe Louis, a military review and words of praise at Fort Hamilton yesterday afternoon as Maj. Gen. Clarence H. Kells, commander of the New York Port of Embarkation, presented the Legion of Merit to the world's heavyweight boxing champion. The fighter said simply: "Sir, I am sincerely grateful."

While 1,000 spectators looked on, T/Sgt. Joseph Louis Barrow heard General Kells refer to the boxer as "a model soldier in training and an inspiration to soldiers everywhere."

"Sergeant Barrow," the general declared, "you have made one of the greatest contributions to the reconditioning program for veterans from overseas."

The citation said the award was "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services" as a member of a group that toured Army camps in the United States and the European, North African, Mediterranean and Italian theaters of operation. Sergeant Louis put on before 2,000,000 soldiers ninety-six exhibitions which, according to the citation, "entailed considerable risk to his boxing future as the champion heavyweight of the world, but he willingly volunteered such action rather than disappoint the soldiers who desired to see him in the ring."

His visit to hospitals, it was said, had "a definite recovery value and morale lift."

The 376th Army Service Forces Band played as a battalion of Negro soldiers from the Port of Embarkation passed in review. The exercises were part of the Army Hour and were heard over a national radio hookup.

The sergeant is assigned to special service at Camp Shanks, N. Y., a staging area of the port. With three years and nine months of service and 74 points, he expects to be released about Oct. 1.

The boxer weighs 215 pounds, ten above his fighting weight, but he remarked after the ceremony that he was "in real good shape." He said he had no definite ring or other plans for the immediate future.

A group of youngsters crowded around for autographs and the champion obliged. When one boy asked: "How did you lick Max Schmeling, Joe?", the sergeant replied: "Remember, little fellow, he beat me, too."

## Joe Louis Gets Legion of Merit

T/Sgt. Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, has been awarded the Legion of Merit from the War Department for "exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services from Aug. 30, 1943 to Oct. 10, 1944."

In ceremonies held yesterday at Fort Hamilton, the great Negro champ had the medal presented to him by Major General Clarence H. Kells, Commanding General of the New York Port of Embarkation.

The medal was accompanied by the following citation:

"As a member of a Special Services Division mission which toured through Army camps in the United States and the European, North African, Mediterranean and Italian theaters of operation, Technical (then Staff) Sergeant Barrow has entertained 2,000,000 soldiers by frequent boxing exhibitions which entailed considerable risk to his boxing future as the champion heavyweight of the world, but he willingly volunteered such action rather than disappoint the soldiers who desired to see him in the ring."

"Whenever possible he visited the camp and theater hospital and his encouragement to sick and injured soldiers had a definite recovery value and morale lift. His services merited and received acclaim from ranking commanders in the various theaters."

miskey

## Hello Joe, Watcha Know?

PM New York, New York

Herewith a report on recent operations and is there anyone in the house who doubts it will be Detroit vs. Chicago Oct. 3? . . . Joe Louis looks in the best shape of his career right now, says he weighs just shy of 215 and never felt better in his life in case you're thinking of writing him off as too old.

Incidentally, the cagey JJ Johnston has come up with Al. Hoosman, the big 6-foot-6 ex-MP who looks like he might do all right in the postwar boxing setup. He's a big Negro kid, 25 years old and Yank said this about him: "He's

the best looking heavyweight seen so far and has all the requisites of a great fighter: height, weight, punch and courage." The Army weekly was quoting Gene Tunney, Ed Gersh, former NYU lineman, has joined the Violet coaching staff at Lake Sebago training quarters. A squad of 30 has turned out, and the team opens in Philly Oct. 5 in a night game against Temple. . . . Gersh, Ross Cherico and Joe Consagra, the other assistants to Coach Jack Weinheimer, all are Army discharges.

The Sporting News shipped a VJ paper (eight pages) and called it the Tokyo Edition. It headlines the news that the Navy insists on the Series winner for a Pacific jaunt. The edition features a story of the time the all-star team invaded Tokyo in 1931.

Promoter Mike Jacobs isn't a

gambling man, but he misses very few bets, if any. That heavyweight fight in the Garden tonight, stepping up the cauliflower production before the rodeo comes in next month, marks the first big man show in quite a while. It'll be Freddie Schott vs. Freddie Fiducia and it's beamed right at Jersey, because both boys are from there. Schott is unbeaten and this one should settle the heavyweight championship of Jersey anyhow, and I wonder if Hague likes that?

The usual Friday night show goes on with Danny Bartfield and Willie Joyce penciled in for 10. . . . Johnny Vander Meer is unbeaten in the Pacific. . . . And you can't tell those Yankee hitters that Feller has lost any of the speed he had to burn when he did a four-year Navy hitch. . . . Spud Chandler's first effort as a heartbreaker, but he deserves a big hand for giving it a try on such short notice.

That story of Lou Zamperini's liberation from the murderous Japanese is a new high in courage for any sports figure of all time. He was captured after 47 days on a raft and endured incredible cruelties since the day nearly 28 months ago he disappeared while on a searching mission in the Pacific. His family never gave up hope and wrote him faithfully every week. He got his letters just three weeks ago and now is on his way home.

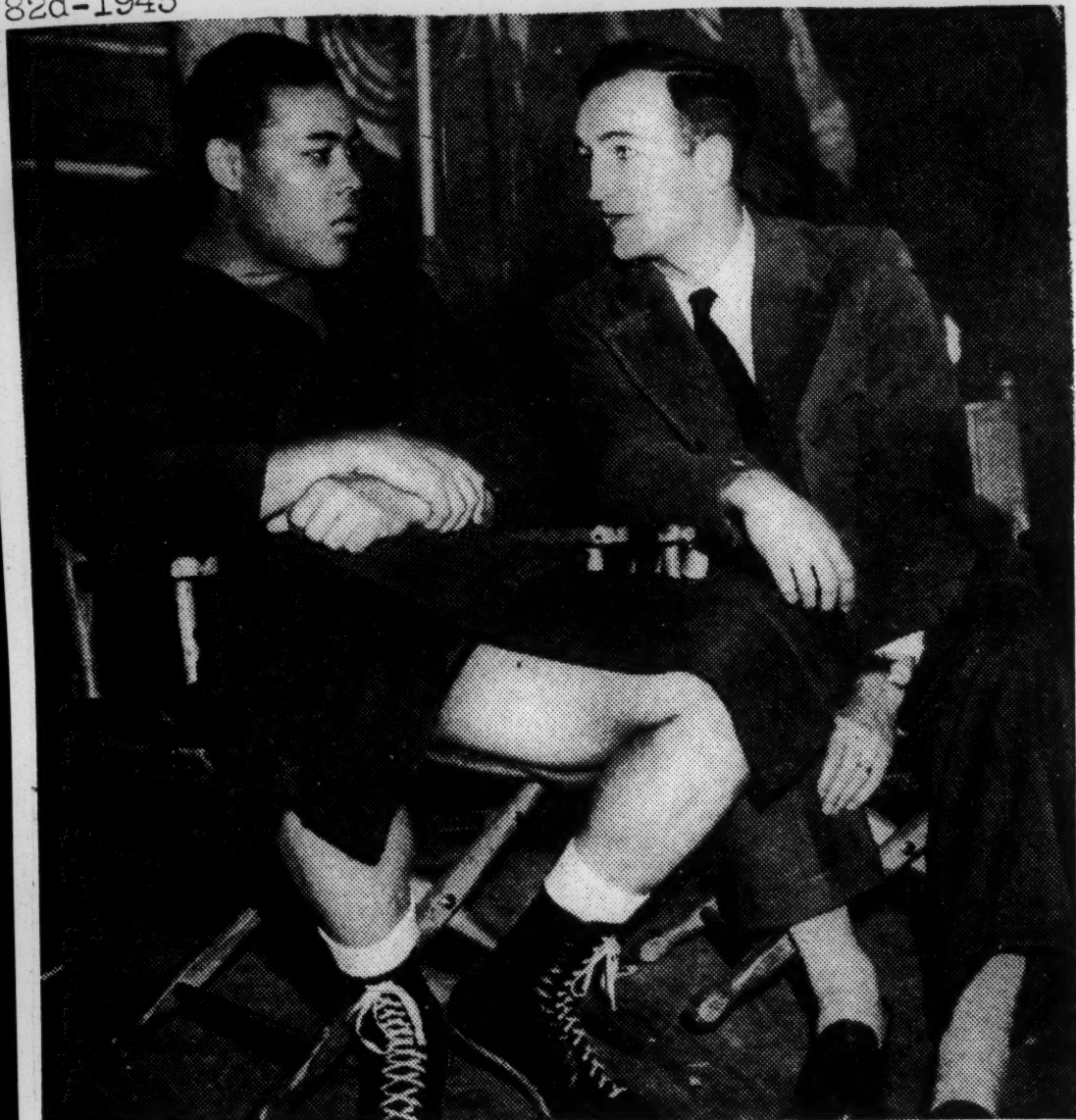
Callorette's miserable showing (she finished seventh) in the \$25,000 Discovery 'Cap just goes to show you can't tell a thing about fillies either. . . . It would seem that Busher is the gal of the year in equine ranks.

Hank Greenberg has plumped 75 grand into a Brooklyn Ford agency. . . . Are Andy Pafko and Peanuts Lowrey ticketed for the Yanks in '46 as an after-part of the Borowy deal? . . . Feller still weekly was quoting Gene Tunney, baseball's greatest single drawing card, as witness that mob at the Stadium yesterday afternoon.

—JOE CUMMISKEY







## Louis and Harmon in Hollywood

Joe Louis, heavyweight champ, and Tommy Harmon, former AAF lieutenant and Michigan grid star, on the set of Monogram's *Joe Palooka* in which Louis is making his debut in the movies. Harmon sat on the sidelines watching his wife work. She is Elyse Knox, who plays Palooka's girl in the film.

### Oh, For the Days! Richmond, Va. Louis Plans Conn Tune-Up With Bands

Times Dispatch  
By Gayle Talbot

Associated Press Sports Writer

Writing as one who thrilled to Joe Louis as to no other experience in a long time of watching sports, there is a pang in hearing that Joe has signed up for another month of one-night stands with a dance band.

I would like to see the champion fight just once more the way he did before the war—or as nearly approaching the way he once fought as would be possible for a 34-year-old who has been in the Army for three and a half years.

But that won't be, because

Joe is in need of money to satisfy Uncle Sam, among others, and he will continue to mess into '42, piled up total earnings around the way he is now, pick-of \$2,378,366.28. Even subtracting it up as quickly as he can, ing his managers' cut, that until the shortest possible time comes to good pay.

before he goes into training to fight Billy Conn in June. The book shows that Louis, in isfy Uncle Sam, among others, his wonderful years from 1934 and he will continue to mess into '42, piled up total earnings around the way he is now, pick-of \$2,378,366.28. Even subtracting it up as quickly as he can, ing his managers' cut, that until the shortest possible time comes to good pay.

That would be all right for a youngster, but it isn't for a man not to mention Promoter Mike Joe's age. June might seem a Jacobs. Conn, if we recall cor-long way off, but if Louis were rectly, also was short of the to be at his best possible for ready before he entered the Pittsburgh Billy, who is swift service, and he, like Joe, is afoot, this month—right now—scrambling around at the pres-would not be too soon for him ent time trying to pry the wolf to gradually begin taking off out of the vestibule.

As I said, I wish Louis had somehow escaped the boxers' blight and hung onto his money, so that he would be free now to begin gradually assembling around sports, it never ceases to chine he once was. It isn't that be an object of wonder what I want to see him lick Conn goes with fighters' money. They again. I'm not certain he could, earn more, quicker, than any-given the best of circumstances. body except movie magnates. It's just that I would like to

see a great champion given the chance he deserves.

For he was great, friends. The big Negro not only was humble and friendly and decent, but he could fight. I wouldn't know whether he could have beaten the Dempseys or the Tunneys or even the Jack Johnsons, but I know where my money would have been riding.

Some ask: "Who did he fight?" All I can say is that Louis, from the night in 1937 when he knocked out Jim Braddock for the title, until 1942, when he entered the Army, fought 22 times; that in that period he beat every man in the world who could be dug up to oppose him. Name me the heavyweight champion with a comparable record.



### Joe Louis to Receive Award

"For his untiring efforts in building the morale of our fighting forces," Sgt. Joe Louis, undefeated world's heavyweight champion, will receive an award this afternoon from the Riverdale Children's Association at the 1-2-3 Club, 123 East Fifty-fourth Street. Former Mayor James J. Walker will make the presentation. Other awards to be distributed by the association will go to the American Theatre Wing War Service and to Abram Hill, director of the American Negro Theatre. 5-28-45

After a lengthy sports confab, during which he is answered every question from "Who hit you the hardest?" which turned out to be Al Delany in 1934, to "What do you think of the north country?" which was about 70 degrees too cold for him, he boarded the plane and headed over frozen Hudson Bay to the isolated, wind-swept U. S. Army Air Field at Southampton

# Joe 'Lays 'Em In Aisle' On Tour Through Canada

Atlanta Daily World

Champ Has Great Time Riding

6-10-45

With Eskimos On Dog Sled

Atlanta, Ga.

U. S. FORCES, Central Canada—(SNS) The first stop for Technical Sergeant Joe Louis Barrow on his recent flying tour through the vast U. S. Army Forces, Central Canada was the U. S. Army Air Field at The Pas, Manitoba. Here, one point conscious GI asked the heavyweight boxing champion for the number of points he had toward getting out of the Army.

Drawled Louis: "Me, why I don't have enough points to buy a pound of butter." Confronted with every camera at the post, he spent a busy half hour posing with dozens of GIs and local urchins, two of whom had ridden a freight train to the post to see their hero.

### EATS HALIBUT

Hopping in a Jeep, which quickly filled to overflowing with GIs, Louis who has toured the European and Mediterranean Theatres of Operations, was off to the mess hall where he added to his present 225 pounds by downing three goodly portions of halibut. 6-10-45

Following a hasty lunch, Louis was off again in a C-47 transport for the long hop to the air base at Churchill, Manitoba, Canada. On arrival, he was whisked off to the post recreation hall to observe 130-pound Private First Class Anthony Raia, of Wilsonville, Ala., bowl his first strike. The Brown Bomber drawled: "If you beat me, ou got a fight me," but Louis, who averages 175 with the ten pins, easily topped his opponent, saying the latter from an unofficial con-

Island, District of Keewatin, N. W. T.

### RIDES DOG SLED

This was all new to the Champ and he had a great time with the Eskimo children who had come to the post by dog sled from their igloos seven miles away. Following a chilly ride which ended in a wet snowbank and tussle with a pet polar bear cub, Louis and his CO at Camp Shanks, Lieut. Lou Krem gathered the men in a bull session at the post recreation hall. After a lengthy and almost futile search for gloves that would fit his huge fists, the Brown Bomber gave an exhibition on the punching bag.

Louis drew many a laugh from his GI boxing fans in answering questions at this session, volunteering some interesting fight facts. Among them the fact that he hit Max Baer 273 times before he KO-ed him in the fourth round in Sept. 1935. He also said that he had tried to train down too fine in the Billy Conn battle in June 1941, going in at 199- $\frac{3}{4}$ , instead of his usual fighter weight of 205. It required 13 rounds for him to score a KO. "That won't happen next time," grinned the Champ.

### Discharge for Louis?

Sgt. Joe Louis, heavyweight champion, appeared in town today weighing just over 200 pounds and looking as fit as he did the last time he fought in the Garden—against Abe Simon in March, 19-2. He said nothing to questions as to when he might be out of the Army. He was silent too about rumors that he has been training hard, secretly, for months.

Cold Climate, Warm Welcome

AFRO American

Baltimore, Md.



afro-american

6-16-45

Despite the snow and sub-zero weather, Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis was given a hearty welcome by Eskimos on his arrival at the U.S. Army airfield at Southampton Island in the northern waters of Canada. Photo shows Brown Bomber shortly after he came into the post on dog-sled, enroute to American outposts in the Aleutians.

carefully and then shook hands all around and promised to end the gang fights.

Tami Mauriello, who always did have a sense of humor, said yesterday in New Orleans where he is scheduled to fight Gunnar Barlund Monday night, that Uncle Mike Jacobs had promised him the first postwar crack at Joe Louis and his title.

Said Tami: "If Uncle Mike keeps his promise, and I believe he will, I'll be the first to fight Louis. As for Conn, let me tell you this—he's no match for Louis. I don't even think he was winning their first fight."

the LOW DOWN

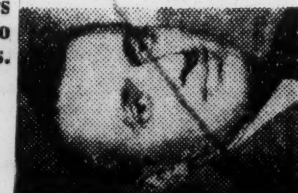
Joe Louis Patches Up a

Kid Gang War in Harlem

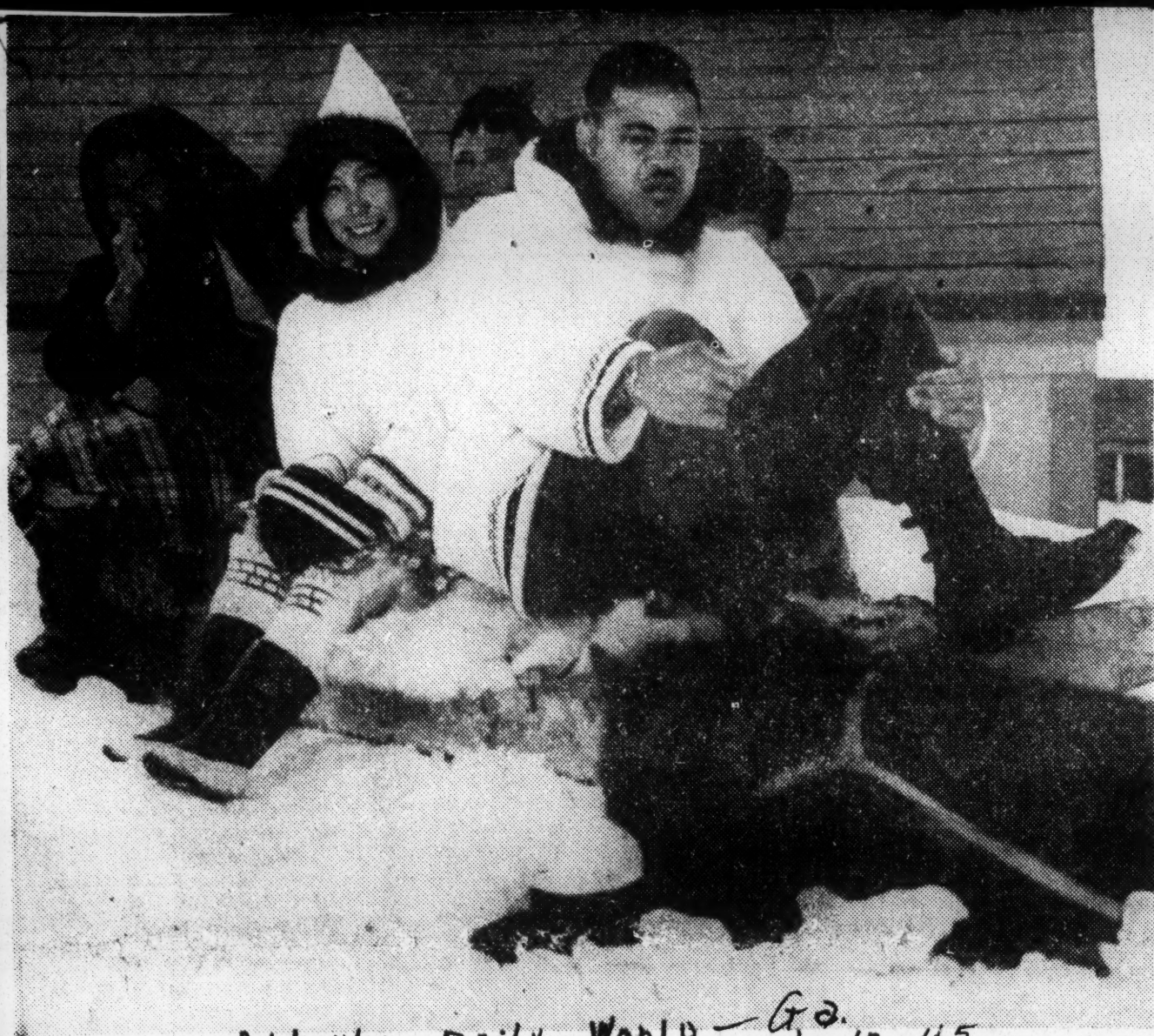
By Nat Low

Joe Louis, who says more in one minute than most orators say in one hour, addressed a meeting of Negro kids in Harlem last week in an attempt to end gang warfare among them. Making the longest and most heartfelt speech of his life, King Joe pleaded with the boys to abandon their program of gang warfare because of its closeness to the boys themselves and because it makes it impossible for them to effectively fight their real enemies such as Bilbo, Rattler and other Negro-baiters.

The 500 Negro teen-agers, who greeted the arrival of the heavyweight champ with a tremendous uproar of applause, listened to him







Atlanta Daily World - 6-10-45

BROWN BOMBER TOURS CANADA — After a rough dog sled ride, Technical Sergeant Joe Louis poses with tired husky and three South-

ampton Island Eskimos. Photo was taken at the U. S. Army Air Field, Southhampton Island, during Louis' recent trip through the bases in

the U. S. Army Forces in Central Canada command. (U. S. Army Forces Photo).

patriotic German, I naturally hoped Germany would win the war."

While MacGowan's story does not anywhere indicate that the Allied occupying forces are planning to use a man named Adolf Hitler to aid in this reeducation of German youth along democratic lines, it would be entirely unnecessary.

For in Schmeling the Allied authorities, whoever they may be, have picked an even better teacher of democratic ideas than Hitler was (or is).

#### SCHMELING'S DEMOCRACY

For instance, in 1936, after he had beaten the then 21-year-old Joe Louis, Schmeling said: "It was natural that I should beat him. After all, any German Aryan can beat any black representative of a decadent democracy." 7-13-45

And in the summer of 1936, before his return bout with this same Joe Louis who had, in the interim, won the world heavyweight championship, our "genuine anti-Nazi"

Further on in the interview this "genuine anti-Nazi" says, "As a

## Hitler Idol Busy 'Re-educating' Youth

By NAT LOW 7-13-45

Max Schmeling, one of Hitler's favorite German supermen, is being employed by the Allied forces in Hamburg as a "re-educator of youth in the ways of democracy in post-war Germany."

This incredible state of affairs is reported by the New York Sun's correspondent in Germany. Gault MacGowan, who writes that Schmeling has "the blessing and encouragement of the Allied occupational forces, which recognize in him a genuine anti-Nazi who helped American prisoners in German camps."

MacGowan spent a full hour interviewing the ex-prize-fighting

said: "Louis, the black man, has no right to the championship, and he knows it. . . ."

And further, from this apostle of democracy: "The black dynasty of boxing must be ended."

It would only belabor the point to say here that Schmeling posed for loving pictures with his Fuhrer, made speeches all over Germany declaring Nazism superior to "decadent democracy"; wrote articles for the Voelkisher Beobachter; swore his allegiance to the Fuehrer when

hit just as hard as he could before he entered the Army in January, 1942.

Wearing a gray suit and a light gray hat, the world's heavyweight champion celebrated his return to civilian life by attending last night's Freddie Schott-John Thomas bout at the St. Nicholas arena, just six hours after his honorable discharge at Camp Shanks, N. Y.

The champ's pockets bulged with cash from his first pay day in a year, a sum of \$1,422.59 plus \$1.10 train fare from camp to city, and he had visions of cutting himself a piece of a \$3,000,000 gate next Summer for his return bout with Billy Conn.

"I don't feel no different than when I fought Abe Simon three years ago right after I got in the Army," drawled burly Joe. "I might be a little bit slower, but I know I can hit just the same. This Army life was good for me, kept me in good shape and close to the game. They let me box all I wanted (about 500 or 600 exhibitions), but I guess just like every other soldier I'm glad to get out."

"First," he told a reporter, "I'm catching the first train to Detroit to see the Tigers clean up those Cubs in six games. Hal Newhouser is going to win two. After that I'm coming back here for a conference with Uncle Mike Jacobs (the promoter) and then I'm off to California for two or three months."

Joe talked in his customary short takes, prodded along by numerous queries from the boxing writers who wanted to know if he planned any tune-up fights before the Conn battle.

"That's all up to Uncle Mike," Louis said. "If Conn is going to have a warm-up, then I'll have one too. I do figure one thing. Conn picked up more pounds in the Army than I did. After all he was smaller to start with. I'm only 15 pounds over my weight right now, but it'll take me a good three months, maybe more, to get ready."

Jacobs, who admitted he would be much happier if neither Louis nor Conn fought until they meet next June, said he had not settled the site of the big scrap.



MAX SCHMELING

Germany started on its bloody attempt to conquer the world; fought against the French people in the invasion; fought against the Greek people in the invasion of Crete, and—well, he didn't quite get around to fighting against the Soviet people.

The Soviets, you see, were putting up a stiff fight and the Nazi high command may have thought Schmeling too valuable a man to lose.

So, after many wonderful years in the lap of Nazi luxury, Max Schmeling, a "genuine anti-Nazi," is now being used by Allied authorities to reeducate the German youth. 7-13-45

The millions of Allied war dead and the tens of millions of wounded, homeless, hungry people, will no doubt cheer lustily this choice.

And no doubt the Allied occupation authorities are very pleased with themselves this morning.

Joe Louis Out Of Army, Sure He Can Still Hit

BY JACK HAND

NEW YORK, Oct. 2—(AP)—Joe Louis is back in civvies, trim and fit at 219 pounds, and sure he can



In This Corner

*The Daily Worker*

## Civilian Louis at Series

*New York, New York*10-3-45  
by Bill Mardo

Sitting in at the World Series opener at Briggs Stadium today will be civilian Joe Louis — who was honorably discharged from the Army earlier this week.

King Joe's release from the service couldn't have come at a better time as far as the champ is concerned — for he's a rabid Detroit fan and his one big wish was that he'd be in civvies soon enough to root for Greenberg and Co.

The great heavy champ entered the Army in January of 1942, and appeared before more than 2,500,000 men in exhibition bouts in Europe, Alaska, the Aleutians, Canada, and the United States. Joe had 74 discharge points to his credit and last week was awarded the Legion of Merit in ceremonies at Fort Hamilton.

The 31-year-old champion looked mighty trim in his civilian clothes, but opined that he needed about four months to get in fighting shape. "Whether I'll be as good as when I left off, that's something I wouldn't know until I'm in there for keeps.

It's generally conceded by ring experts that Joe can't have all the speed that was his before the war — but nobody doubts that he'll hit as hard as ever.

And while Joe and the rest of the sports world are presently concerning themselves with the World Series—there's already a nervous excitement in the air about that Conn-Louis return next Summer.

That, my friends, is something to get excited about.

*Boxing Gets Lift From Return Of Three Champs*  
*The Birmingham News*  
*Birmingham, Alabama*  
10-2-45 MURRAY ROSE

NEW YORK, Oct. 2—(A)—The boxing business, which has been booming all over the country de-Billy Conn and I sure hope we'll spite the absence of most of the ring's champions and big names, Louis received his Army discharge at 4 p.m. at Camp Shanks, N. Y., after 44 months' service.

ian life.

S-Sgt. Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, and Middleweight Boss Tony Zale already have received their discharges from Uncle Sam. Light Heavyweight King Gus Lesnevich has arrived in Boston from the Pacific with the prospect he will be out of the Coast Guard shortly.

Louis said good-bye to the Army at Camp Shanks, N. Y., yesterday after serving 44 months. Zale, a chief specialist in the Navy for 41 months, returned to his Gary, Ind., home for a vacation, after which he will start training for a bout with either Jake Lamotta or Rocky Graziano. The Lesnevich 175-pound champ served as an athletic instructor in the Coast Guard and is in pretty good shape.

Meanwhile, Freddy Cochrane, the welterweight boss, was ordered by the New York State Athletic Commission to sign for a title bout within 60 days or forfeit his crown. The Union, N. J., boxer, who entered Seton Hall College yesterday, has fought only in non-title bouts since his release from the Navy last January.

**Joe Louis, Given Discharge, Heads For World Series**  
*The Birmingham News*  
*Birmingham, Alabama*  
10-1-45

NEW YORK, Oct. 1—(A)—Big, burly Joe Louis, an ex-Army sergeant now but still the world's heavyweight boxing champion, made plans less than six hours after getting his Army discharge to go to Detroit to see his beloved Tigers "win the World Series from the Cubs four games to two."

Louis, who would rather discuss Hank Greenberg and the Tigers any day ahead of his own sport, told reporters at the St. Nicholas Arena tonight where he was watching heavyweights Freddie Schott and John Thomas battle, that he was going to get a 7 a.m. train tomorrow for Detroit.

"I'm going to see every game of the series," the champion said, "and then I'm coming back to see Uncle Mike Jacobs (the promoter) and talk over future plans."

Louis said he then planned to go to California for about two or three months.

"It'll take me at least that long to get in shape," Louis added, "my next title fight is going to be with Billy Conn and I sure hope we'll draw a \$3,000,000 gate."

Louis received his Army discharge at 4 p.m. at Camp Shanks, N. Y., after 44 months' service.

## Joe Louis

The champ had 74 points when he picked up that "white piece of paper" giving him an honorable discharge and received \$1,422.59, base pay for a whole year. In addition to \$100 mustering out pay he was handed his fare to New York amounting to \$1.10.

Reviewing his Army career, Louis said he must have fought 500 or 600 exhibitions in many overseas and United States camps since Jan. 14, 1942. He weighed 219 pounds, approximately 15 over his fighting weight, and gave the service credit for keeping him in good condition and in touch with the fight game. "I might not move just as fast," said the heavyweight king, "but I hit just the same."



**THE CHAMPION COLLECTS HIS ARMY 'GATE'**  
*The New York Times*  
*New York, New York*  
10-3-45

Sgt. Joe Louis, discharged from the service on Monday, receiving one year's back pay of \$1,422.59 from Maj. William C. Burtis, Finance Officer at Camp Shanks, N. Y. The amount includes his base pay, longevity, overseas pay, allowance for subsistence and the first \$100 of his mustering out pay.

**Joe Louis Will Defend Crown Against Conn**  
*Birmingham (Ala.) News*

NEW YORK, Oct. 16—(A)—Joe

weight championship contract-signing was a great event. Cameras clicked and flash bulbs popped as promoters, managers and plain hangers-on milled around the champion.

Conn is scheduled to come in tomorrow to scribble his name on the legal document that will enrich him for life. This being the first title bout among the big boys since Louis flattened Abe Simon in March, 1942, Promoter Mike Jacobs figured the occasion was worth separate signings to gain the extra ballyhoo.

Jacobs plans to sock a \$100 label on the ringside seats and expects that the fight "will do \$3,000,000 at the gate and I wouldn't want to try to guess what the figure might be if you counted in movies, radio and television."

Uncle Mike is sold on television and believes that it won't be long before the gate from the sale of tickets at the site of a super-special battle will be dwarfed by the revenue collected from hundreds of theaters where the fight will televised.

"Those engineers tell me they may have television perfected enough by that time to pipe the fight right onto movie house screens," Jacobs added. "If that is so, your guess on the gate is as good as mine."

It's the question of the extras that may cost New York a title fight again. Jacobs said the Empire State exacts a 5 per cent tax on the gross receipts of movies, and the levy extends to all states or countries where the film might be shown. He figures that if Conn wins, the picture will be worth more than the gross gate.

Chicago drew \$2,650,000—the largest gate in history—for the second Jack Dempsey-Gene Tunney fight in 1927 and Philadelphia had a \$1,895,723 show for the first Dempsey-Tunney bout. Jacobs is partial to both cities with their 100,000 seating capacity stadiums.

Louis, likes Detroit where Briggs Stadium can be fixed to seat 80,000 customers.

New York is not out of running, however, for it is known that Col. Eddie Eagan, chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission, intends to go all out to keep the show here.

According to the contract Jacobs can wait until 40 days before the fight to announce the site.

Associated Press (U. S. Signal Corps)

Louis is going to defend his title against Billy Conn next June in a bout that will probably draw a \$3,000,000 gate but where the big fight will be held is a guessing game that involves New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit.

The Brown Bomber signed to defend his title yesterday in a scene reminiscent of the hoopla and fanfare of pre-war days when a heavy-



# Louis Signs For Fight

**With Conn**  
*Courier-Journal*  
**3 Million Gate**  
**Seen for Bout**  
**Slated In June**  
*Louisville, Ky.*

New York, Oct. 15 (AP)—Joe Louis signed on the dotted line today for the champion's share of a \$3,000,000 heavyweight title fight with Billy Conn next June and then hied himself home to pack for a golfing vacation in Los Angeles.

As unconcerned as though he had stopped in to change a dime for a subway ride to Harlem, the Brown Bomber calmly posed with Promoter Mike Jacobs amidst a flurry of photographers' flash bulbs reminiscent of the "good old days."

Jacobs said Conn would be in town Wednesday when he hoped to sew up the other half of the contract that would set up the richest gate in the history of boxing.

"I expect it will do \$3,000,000 at the gate and I wouldn't want to try to guess what the figure might be if you counted in movies, radio and television," stated Uncle Mike. "Those engineers tell me they may have television perfected enough by that time to pipe the fight right onto movie house screens. If that is so, your guess on the gate is as good as mine."

## NO TUNEUPS

There will be no tuneup scraps for Louis before the Conn battle and there will be none for the popular Irish challenger from Pittsburgh if Jacobs has his way. That little matter will be attended to Wednesday in the office of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club.

Separate exhibition tours of Europe may be arranged by Lew Burston, Jacobs' overseas representative, but it is considered more likely that the champ will be booked through the best fight towns of the U.S.A. in a series of exhibition matches.

Out of the Army only two weeks, Louis had just returned from watching his favorites, the Detroit Tigers, win the World Series as he predicted. He hastened to put in a pitch for Briggs Stadium as the site of the big bout.

## LEGAL JOKER

New York, Philadelphia, Chi-

cago and Detroit had been mentioned by Jacobs as possibilities and he agreed with Louis that a Briggs Stadium with an enlarged seating capacity of 80,000 was attractive. It is probable that considerable pressure will be brought to bear on the promoter to stage the fight in New York despite higher taxes on movie and radio rights.

There's a little joker in the legal document calling for Louis to fight Conn "or any other suitable opponent designated by Jacobs." The promoter slyly explained that he had added that clause "just in case Conn doesn't sign or something goes wrong."

## BILLY CONN THE OP- PONENT

*Atlanta Constitution*  
**Joe Louis Signs for \$3,000,000 Title Bout**  
10-16-45

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.—(AP)—Joe Louis signed on the dotted line today for the champion's share of a \$3,000,000 heavyweight title fight with Billy Conn next June and then hied himself home to pack for a golfing vacation in Los Angeles.

As unconcerned as though he had stopped in to change a dime for a subway ride to Harlem, the

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.—(UP)—Prices of tickets to the coming title bout in which Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis will defend his crown, soared today with some selling as high as \$100 each. At the same time, Promoter Mike Jacobs said his estimate of returns from the fight ranged between \$3,000,000 and \$10,000,000. Brown Bomber calmly posed with Promoter Mike Jacobs amidst a flurry of photographers' flash bulbs reminiscent of the "good old days."

Jacobs said Conn would be in town Wednesday when he hoped to sew up the other half of the contract that would set up the richest gate in the history of boxing.

"I expect it will do \$3,000,000 at the gate and I wouldn't want to try to guess what the figure might be if you counted in movies, radio and television," stated Uncle Mike. "Those engineers tell me they may have television perfected enough by that time to pipe the fight right onto movie house screens. If that is so, your guess on the gate is as good as mine."

There will be no tune-up scraps for Louis before the Conn battle and there will be none for the popular Irish challenger from Pittsburgh if Jacobs has his way. That little matter will be attended to Wednesday in the office of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club.

Separate exhibition tours of Eu-

rope may be arranged by Lew Burston, Jacobs' overseas representative, but it is considered more likely that the champ will be booked through the best fight towns in the U. S. A. in a series of exhibition matches.

Out of the Army only two weeks, Louis had just returned from watching his favorites, the Detroit Tigers, win the World Series as he predicted. He hastened to put in a pitch for Briggs stadium as the site of the big bout. New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Detroit had been mentioned by Jacobs as possibilities and he agreed with Louis that a Briggs stadium with an enlarged

seating capacity of 80,000 was attractive. It is probable that considerable pressure will be brought to bear on the promoter to stage the fight in New York despite higher taxes on movie and radio rights.

According to terms of the contract, Jacobs can wait until 40 days before the bout to announce where it will be held, but he is not expected to wait that long as this extravaganza will be put on in the old prewar style with separate training camps and the customary running details on the public and private lives of the two gladiators.

There's a little joker in the legal document calling for Louis to fight Conn "or any other suitable opponent designated by Jacobs." The promoter slyly explained that he had added that clause "just in case Conn doesn't sign or something goes wrong."

"Joe will be in camp from March on," Jacobs declared, and Louis nodded assent. The exhibition schedule all depends on how long he wants to play golf and rest in California. Everybody is asking for him, but where he'll go and when is up to him.

Louis weighed 219 when he was discharged from the Army and figured he needed at least four months to get ready for Conn.

"Will it take me 13 rounds to catch up with Conn next time?" he echoed the champ. "Can't tell yet. I'll probably not be so fast, but I'll hit just as hard and I figure Billy won't be quite so quick either."



## JACK TARVER

## Conn'll Try Anything Twice--for a Price

Joe Louis has signed to meet Billy Conn next June.

*Atlanta Constitution*

Unless the Argentine revolution picks up steam in the meantime, this will be the first major battle of the peace.

Thus, disillusioned in its quest for a brave new world, humanity turns again to its other search—that for a new white hope.

## Joe Louis Signs for \$3,000,000 Title Bout

Fight fans are glad that hostilities have ceased and Louis and Conn are back in their respective corners. Those wartime substitutes, Tommy Dorsey and Jon Hall, never caught on somehow.

Also glad to be back are Louis and Conn. It is far better to fight each other at three million dollars a night than to fight several million of the enemy at fifty dollars a month.

Louis knocked Conn awinding when last they met back in 1941. "But," say Conn fans, "Joe's four years older now."

Where do they think Billy-boy's been—on ice?

## Conn Accepts Fight On Conn's Terms

New York, Oct. 18 (AP)—Billy Conn won his first decision since leaving the Army—a rich win over Promoter Mike Jacobs—today and then put his name on contracts calling for his return match with Joe Louis next June.

The Pittsburgh pretty boy the expected fancy-priced tele-scratched his "William Davidvision rights for this fight separately, instead of including it in a dozen agreements for the fight the "package" Mike peddles by after a two-hour session. He and the year for all his promotions. his manager, Johnny Ray, won Thus Billy and the Bomber are virtually every point they had insured a cut of the actual re-argued about for two days. turn from televising this one big spoils:

1. Permission for Billy to ap-be allotted to their bout, on a pear in as many pre-fight ex-pro rata basis, from the tele-hibition bouts as he wants, al-vision receipts Mike receives for though all tune-up tussles are his entire year's promotions. barred.

2. A 20 per cent cut of the turkey breakfasts of the Demp-gate—just what Conn receivedsey-Kearns heyday were missing, for his first fuss with the Bomb-this was an old-fashioned sign-e in 1941, when he was flat-ing, complete with photograph-tened in 13 rounds, but 2½ perer's bulbs, a couple of dozen cent more than a challenger's sports writers, lawyers, managers usual end. and a gold-headed pen. The only

3. A 20 per cent slice of the guy missing, of course, was Louis, television and motion picture pie, who signed last Monday—with Mike is planning to pipe the tele-no more argument than if he were vision into movie houses. writing a post-card.

4. Agreement by Jacobs to sell



## SIGNING FOR ANOTHER FIGHT WITH CHAMPION NEXT SUMMER



Billy Conn affixing his signature to a contract for a return bout with Joe Louis. Standing behind the contender are (left to right) Promoter Mike Jacobs, Sol Strauss, Jacobs' counsel; Johnny Ray, Conn's manager, and Dave Pitler, attorney for Conn and Ray. *10-19-45*

## Conn Refuses to Sign Without Tuneup Bout

By PHIL GORDON *Daily Worker*

Billy Conn, Number 1 contender for Joe Louis' heavyweight championship, yesterday refused to sign a contract to meet Joe unless he is allowed tuneup bouts for the big battle.

In a fracas which will undoubtedly lend more glamor and publicity to the Battle of the Century between Louis and himself, Conn shouted and stomped in Mike Jacobs' offices at 20th Century and said, "Nothing doing." *N.Y. N.Y.*

Johnny Ray, Conn's manager, said he thought Billy needed at least three tune-up bouts before getting ready for the Louis go next June. Louis, who signed his con-

tract Monday, readily agreed not to engage in any tune-up bouts, but Conn and Ray were adamant on the point. *10-18-45*

Ray contends that Conn, who has been in the army over three years and had not had a real bout in all that time, was much in need of a few bouts with minor opponents.

Reporters were not allowed to enter Jacobs' office as the controversy raged but from vantage points outside they could hear Ray, Conn and Jacobs shouting

back and forth in an argument that lasted more than half an hour.

Conn finally came out, looking a little ruffled. He said he was feeling good and seemed to be in good enough shape. He said he weighed about 190 pounds, 16 more than he weighed when he met Louis the first time on June 18, 1941.

While the boys battle it out, the interest in the fight only grows by leaps and bounds. Of course, it is easy to understand why Jacobs wants no part of tune-up fights. Should either Louis or Conn look bad in these fights it would allegedly hurt the gate. And if either of them suffered any kind of an injury about eight million smackeroos would go flying out of the window.

But both men should have tune-ups for they've been in the service so long they must of necessity be stale and slow.

Don't take the controversy too seriously, however, the Big Fight will go on, have no fear of that. This is just adding fuel to the fire—and, frankly, I think Jacobs loves it.

## CONN SIGNS TO MEET LOUIS IN JUNE FIGHT

Promoter Jacobs Wins Point to Bar Tune-Up Bouts, but Exhibitions Are Allowed

*New York Times*  
90-DAY CLAUSE ACCEPTED  
*New York, N.Y.*

Champion to Get Return Title Match Within That Time in Event He Is Beaten

*10-19-45*

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Billy Conn has agreed to fight Joe Louis under Mike Jacobs' promotion sometime next June, thereby surprising nobody at all. The negotiations, begun on Wednesday between Jacobs and Johnny Ray, who manages Conn, were carried over until yesterday afternoon, when the matter was settled finally to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Before Pittsburgh Billy made it official by putting his signature to the contract, though, Jacobs and Ray differed violently on several clauses. At times, through the two-day session, there was more acrimony poured out than is usually evident at a meeting between two conservative business men. Each ventured the opinion that the other was demanding just a little too much, and there were even hints of a threat to call the whole thing off.

The boxing world viewed the matter with a tongue in cheek attitude, though, and its numerous prophets flatly predicted that everything would come out all right. The prediction was a safe enough one, since the fight promises to draw \$3,000,000. Who, the fight mob reasoned, would turn down a three-million dollar shot just because of a subordinate clause in an iron-bound contract between friends?

Jacobs Fears Injury to Conn

The wrangling was begun by Ray in his Wednesday talk with Jacobs, when the former opposed Mike's insistence that Conn refrain

from tune-up fights before stepping into the ring with Louis. Mike's logic was that Conn might suffer an injury, or a defeat, that would interfere with the big fight, while Ray argued that Billy needed some sharpening in actual competition before tackling the Brown Bomber.

The upshot of all this? Conn will engage in no tune-ups.

Louis signed on Monday, had agreed also to avoid participation in tune-up activities. The champion, unaccompanied by manager or legal counsel, merely signed where Mike told him, put on his hat and went to Chicago.

Conn, if he had his way, undoubtedly would have done just the same thing, except that he'd go to Pittsburgh, but the challenger, admitting that his manager was his boss, had little to say. He left it all up to Ray, but Ray called in his brother, Attorney Dave B. Pitler, to help him. Jacobs, of course, got whatever assistance he needed from his cousin and veteran standby, Attorney Sol Strauss.

Radio Appearances Permitted

Although he agreed to keep Conn away from formal ring competition until June, Ray received permission from Jacobs (and it was put into the contract) for Conn to engage in sparring exhibitions around the country. The challenger also is at liberty to accept refereeing assignments, and to appear on radio programs bidding for him since his release from the Army.

Ray also consented to the "ninety-day" clause in the contract, agreeing to give Louis another shot at Conn to Louis within that time in the event that Billy wins the June clash. All in all, the contract was about the same that obtained when Louis and Conn first met, four years ago, save for the addition of a share of the television rights to each fighter. Conn will receive 20 per cent of the gate and the same slice of the television and motion picture rights.

The challenger left for home when he was assured that Ray and Jacobs had reached a conclusion about him. He will start light training at the Pittsburgh Lyceum on Monday, and also will devote much time to golf, which he considers the equivalent of roadwork. He will begin intensive preparation on March 1. *10-14-45*



10-20-45




**FOR THE FIRST TIME**, the four Negro cadets at the West Point Military Academy are photographed together when they visited Harlem following the Army-Michigan football game Saturday at Yankee Stadium. Above picture shows world champion Joe Louis, who knows something about army life, himself, giving the mathematical wizards who aspire to follow in the footsteps of Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., to become generals in the U. S. Army, a squared circle problem. Left to right, Charles Smith, plebe, graduate of Stowe Teachers College, St. Louis; Edward Howard, plebe, Dartmouth College, Professor of Fistian University, Joe Louis; Anderson McCoy, three-year graduate of Pittsburgh University, and Edward Wills, Detroit Tech College graduate. Get-together took place at the Theresa Hotel.—Stovall Photo

# S P O R T S

P.M.

## sions by Jacobs Hinted

Well, Billy the Kid from Pittsburgh, who can be as stubborn as a goat, and Michael the Jacobs from the Beach, who can double Conn in spades—or goats—gave a little here and a little there and, as a result, there's no roadblock now to the Conn-Louis title fight in June.



Conn, through his manager, Johnny Ray, was adamant the other day about

signing a contract with Jacobs to get about 25 per cent anyway. which contained a clause that Bill-O He now may be pushing 30 per cent of that anticipated record-high and Ray, hollered bloody, blue mur-jackpot. 10-19-45-  
der. And called for their lawyers. Conn's clause also has the rou-  
So today the contract has beentime 90-day clause in it, which is  
signed. Conn will not be able to attached to every challenger's pa-  
engage in any tuneup matches, so pers. That stipulates that, if said  
called. But he will be able to take challenger wins. he must defend  
part in exhibitions (and with the his title within that length of time  
big, pillowy gloves) with sparmates against the man he won it from.  
the length and breadth of the land. Conn was flanked yesterday by

## Radio Work OK

He also will be free to accept some of the numerous radio offers that have come his way since his release by the Armed forces. But as far as fighting again lower-case opposition, even fourth- and fifth-rate heavyweights, that's out.

There was talk, too, that Conn wanted more than the cut which Jacobs offered him. Neither side would admit if the subject of money

even reared its ugly head as Conn poised his pen over the dotted line. But with \$3,000,000 and up figured for the box office next June, it was hard to ignore the talk of cash before the signature. It's my studied hunch that Conn has his percentage upped three or four points.

As I understand it, he was going to get about 25 per cent anyway. He now may be pushing 30 per cent of that anticipated record-high jackpot. **10-19-45** Conn's clause also has the routine 90-day clause in it, which is attached to every challenger's papers. That stipulates that, if said challenger wins, he must defend his title within that length of time against the man he won it from.

Conn was flanked yesterday by Lawyer Dave Pitler, brother of his manager, Johnny Ray, and Promoter Jacobs left nothing to hearsay. He called his Blackstone, Sol Strauss, into action.

## Contract Signed

And so with the whereas and wherefores, to say nothing of the sowhats, flying right and left the way Bill-O hopes to decision Louis this next time, the contract was inked.

Billy's plans call for stops in the Midwest, on the West Coast, and in the Deep South. He is linking up a series of referee jobs and now and then will oblige by pushing an overstuffed sparmate around for whatever the tariff will stand.

He plans to start actual training in the Pittsburgh Lyceum on March 1, that's the start-now deadline Jacobs laid down for Joe Louis, too. Joe plans to be around New York, probably at Pompton Lake, N. J.

While all this was going on, Tub-thumper Harry Markson was pulling at his hair, hoping to get a word in edgewise about Tony Janiro and Al Guido at St. Nick's tonight. And he didn't necessarily mean whereas.

Add to that the fact that there was a Reuters report from England that Bruce Woodcock, new British heavyweight champ (who has been offered a January fight here with Gus Lesnevich), won't be able to come as soon as he had hoped.

It seems that as a locomotive fitter—which he is—Woodcock still is frozen to his job by the Ministry of Works. That's the last word from Tom Hurst, Bruce's Mgr. Anyway, the guy will be over one of these days and Golden Era 88 will dawn like the sun that never sets on British soil.

# Dempsey Figures *The Courier Journal* Louisville, Kentucky Idleness Hurt Louis

10-24-43  
New York, Oct. 23 (AP)—Jack Dempsey figures the same thing that “happened” to him on a certain rainy night in Philadelphia 19 years ago, will be sitting right in Joe Louis’ lap, come next June—and it’s going to make Joe’s date with Billy Conn anything but a tea party for the Bomber.

Now, don't get the idea from this that Commander Jack of the Coast Guard is tabbing Lewis as a sure-thing loser. But he remembers what that three-year layoff did to him when he tangled with Gene Tunney the first time. And, speaking from experience, he reckons the same thing is going to "happen" to Joe, who hasn't thrown his high hard one for money in four years.

**Hopkins** Hospital, where a check-up showed that aside from a leg nerve that's acting up, there's nothing wrong with him. A steak dinner won't cure, Dempsey stopped off in New York to pick up his toothbrush and a couple of clean shirts for his coming cross-country bond tour.

# MAY HAPPEN

The same thing that happened to me in that first fight with Tunney," the mauler explained, "is likely to happen to Louis against Conn. I was away from the ring three years then, and that's too long.

More Confident Louis Finds  
*The Washington Post-Herald*, D.C.  
Time to Predict Conn Defeat

Los Angeles, Oct. 22 (INS).—Declaring that the Army "gave me a self-confidence that I never had before," Joe Louis, Negro heavyweight boxing champion of the world, predicted today that he would again defeat Billy Conn when they meet some time in June.

"I'm a new Joe Louis," the "Brown Bomber" said upon his arrival in Los Angeles. "The Army did a radio comedian."

"I can beat Conn in June. 'Ball he repeated. 'And I'm gonna start that's right, a real one. Conn will lose his head again and blow on November 11 with Jack Benny.' The Bomber said he weighed 219 up. Conn was beating me in our other fight, but he lost his head and pounds now but expects to train I had him then. He's too cocky, down to 205 for his bout with Conn. He will open serious training the

Louis came to Los Angeles to first of March at his old camp at "be-pompoon Lake, New oYrk. But for the present, training plans are out of his thoughts. The fight will take place in a city yet to be named. "I'm going to enjoy my vacation," he said. "In June I'll get down to business."



820-1945  
**Mike Jacobs Signs Louis for \$3,000,000 Title Bout; To Confer With Conn Tomorrow**  
*The Washington Post*  
 10-16-45

Joe Louis



**LIKE OLD TIMES**—Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion, signs for the champion's share of a three million dollar fight with Billy Conn next June. Promoter Mike Jacobs watches as Louis affixes his signature in Jacobs' office in New York.

**Fight to Be Held Next June; Several Sites Mentioned**  
 10-16-45

New York, Oct. 15 (AP).—Joe Louis signed on the dotted line today for the champion's share of a three million dollar heavyweight title fight with Billy Conn next June and then hied himself home to pack for a golfing vacation in Los Angeles.

As unconcerned as though he had stopped in to change a dime for a subway ride to Harlem, the Brown Bomber calmly posed with Promoter Mike Jacobs amidst a flurry of photographers' flash bulbs reminiscent of the "good old days."

Jacobs said Conn would be in town Wednesday when he hoped to sew up the other half of the contract that would set up the richest gate in the history of boxing.

"I expect it will do three million dollars at the gate and I wouldn't

want to try to guess what the figure might be if you counted in movies, radio and television," stated Uncle Mike. "Those engineers tell me they may have television perfected enough by that time to pipe the fight right onto movie house screens. If that is so, your guess on the gate is as good as mine."

There will be no tuneup scraps for Louis before the Conn battle and there will be none for the popular Irish challenger from Pittsburgh if Jacobs has his say. That little matter will be attended to Wednesday in the office of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club.

Separate exhibition tours of Europe may be arranged by Lew Burston, Jacobs' overseas representative, but it is considered more likely that the champ will be booked through the best fight towns in the United States of America in a series of exhibition matches.

Out of the Army only two weeks, Louis had just returned from

watching his favorites, the Detroit Tigers, win the World Series as he predicted. He hastened to put in a pitch for Briggs Stadium as the site of the big bout.

New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Detroit had been mentioned by Jacobs as possibilities and he agreed with Louis that a Briggs Stadium with an enlarged seating capacity of 80,000 was attractive. It is probable that considerable pressure will be brought to bear on the promoter to stage the fight in New York despite higher taxes on movie and radio fights.

According to the terms of the contract, Jacobs can wait until 40 days before the bout to announce where it will be held but he is not expected to wait that long as this extravaganza will be put on in the old prewar style with separate training camps and the customary running details on the public and private lives of the two gladiators. There's a little joker in the legal

document calling for Louis to fight Conn "or any other suitable opponent designated by Jacobs." The promoter slyly explained that he had added that clause "just in case Conn doesn't sign or something goes wrong."

"Joe will be in camp from March on," Jacobs declared and Louis nodded assent. The exhibition schedule all depends on how long he wants to play golf and rest in California. Everybody is asking for him but where he'll go and when is up to him."

Louis weighed 219 when he was discharged from the Army and figured he needed at least four months to get ready for Conn.

"Will it take me 13 rounds to catch up with Conn next time?" echoed the champ. "Can't tell yet. I'll probably not be so fast but I'll hit just as hard and I figure Billy won't be quite so quick either."

**LOUIS TO BOX CONN FOR TITLE IN JUNE**  
*New York Times*  
 10-16-45

**Champion Signs for Contest Under Jacobs' Promotion Amid Old-Time Ballyhoo**

**\$100 FOR RINGSIDE SEAT**

**Gate Receipts of \$3,000,000 Forecast, With \$7,000,000 More From Films, Television**

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Heavyweight champion Joe Louis yesterday signed articles to defend his crown against Billy Conn of Pittsburgh sometime next June. The Brown Bomber, recently released from the Army, agreed to go through with the match under the promotion of Mike Jacobs, president of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club.

Unaccompanied by either of his managers, John Roxborough or Julian Black, Louis went through the ceremony of signing the contract with Jacobs in an atmosphere reminiscent of the old-time, big-time hullabaloo that was considered a necessary concomitant of so world-shaking an event. Photographers, reporters, promoters, matchmakers, managers and the usual group of "faceless men" crowded into Jacobs' office to watch Joe put his signature on

the document. 10-16-45

One important party to the contract, though, was absent. That party was Conn, himself. It wasn't that Jacobs was fearful of having the two gladiators tear into each other in a quite unremunerative tussle in his office. Far from that. Louis and Conn are the best of friends outside the ring. It was merely that the promoter considered the Pittsburgh challenger important enough to rate a private signing, too. That detail will be attended to tomorrow.

In making known his intention to stage the fight Jacobs admitted that he had not yet decided on the exact site or date. He said that the terms of the contract call for him to announce those facts at least forty days before the event. The promoter added that it was not an absolute certainty that New York would be the locale, pointing out that Philadelphia, Chicago and Detroit all have facilities capable of handling the event.

The fight undoubtedly will be the biggest financial sports production of all time, if all of Jacobs' plans materialize. The price of a ticket for a ringside seat will be \$100, a fact in itself unprecedented. Although he will try to get as many fans as possible into whatever park he decides to stage the bout in, Jacobs also will be concerned with attracting the attention of those who will be unable to attend the battle.

"I expect to do \$3,000,000 at the gate," Jacobs explained. He then went on to say that this wasn't all. There still remain the standard items of moving picture and radio rights, in addition to the television field. The promoter has been assured by engineers that this science advanced so much that by next summer it will be feasible to "pipe" the fight into theatre screens. "If that's the case," Mike mused, "the skys the limit. We'll probably handle as much as ten million dollars."

Mention of these figures failed to stagger a single listener. As a matter of fact one of the second-rate managers, whose borrowed buck on Manadroit to win at Jamaica had just gone up the flue, intoned oracularly, "Ten Million! Peanuts! I'll bet with that set-up it'll go twenty."

Neither Louis nor Conn will be permitted to engage in any tune-up bouts before their scheduled meeting. However, separate exhibition tours will likely be permitted by Jacobs, for the purpose of whipping up interest all over the country. The fighters will establish training camps in March.

**Goes to Chicago Today**

The champion, who is 31 years old and who received his discharge from the Army after forty-four months of service, said he weighed 219 pounds, and that he expected to scale 205 for the title contest. He will get to his home in Chicago

in service. Conn engaged in numerous exhibitions, but not against each other, theor for the entertainment of the men

Since they fought each other in 1941, Louis has risked his crown times, the last one being against Abe Simon in March, 1942. In February, 1942, against middleweight champion Tony Zale. During their Army tenure Louis and





*The Daily Worker*  
**LOW DOWN**  
*New York, New York*  
 Joe Louis' Endorsement of  
 Davis a Natural Thing  
 10-17-45  
 By Nat Low

Joe Louis' wholehearted endorsement of the candidacy of Ben Davis and his acceptance of the position as honorary chairman of the Veterans' Committee to Reelect Davis is not simply an accident, but the logical development of a life which has been one of true devotion to his people and the cause of democracy.

Louis, from the time he came winging out of Detroit more than ten years ago to establish himself as the greatest fighter of all time, has been a highly conscious democrat. Always instinctively correct on many important issues, Louis' development proceeded apace once he became champion and was able to observe closely the reactions of papers and people to him.

He began to discern his enemies and his friends. Remember how a certain large section of the press portrayed him early in his career? How they pictured him as stupid, lazy, dead-pan?

The only paper to do full justice to him was the Daily Worker, whose sports page, under the editorship of Lester Rodney, on leave to the United States Army, consistently assessed Louis' true stature in the ring and out of it.

Louis, as heavyweight champion of the world, has always been acutely aware of the fact that he is a leading representative of the Negro people and has accepted his position proudly. A man of great natural dignity, his importance transcended that of the ring; he became a worldwide figure loved and admired by democratic peoples everywhere. No greater manifestation of his role could be had than his second battle with Max Schmeling, darling of Hitler Germany.

Of course, by now certain of the things Louis has done are legend. His fights for the benefit of the Army and Navy War Relief Societies right after Pearl Harbor; his statement in answer to a question as to why he was supporting the war, "There are a lot of things wrong with this country, but Hitler won't fix 'em"; his \$200 contribution to a Jewish organization accompanied by his message, "What is good for your people is good for my people because all minorities must fight together"; these and many other things have shown Joe Louis' democracy, his fervent love of decency and justice.

The four years he spent in the Army have provided him with even richer experiences. He has gained the love and respect of millions of GIs, white as well as Negro. He has emerged from the service a matured, well-poised man, confident in his prowess and hopeful of seeing a truly democratic postwar America where Negro and white can live side by side in equality, peace and friendship.

That's why Louis said yesterday, "As a veteran and as a Negro, I am calling upon all my friends to make Ben Davis their No. 1 choice for reelection to the City Council. While our boys were knocking out Hitlerism abroad, Ben Davis kept punching against Hitlerism and Jimcrow back home. His program for the veterans, for jobs and for justice for all is what this war was fought for. We have got to keep punching for Ben Davis and send him back to the City Council."

And it is statements such as these that make Joe Louis the great world champion he is—and will be for a long, long time.



JOE LOUIS

# Louis Signs for Heavy Title Match Next June

*The Daily Worker*  
*New York, New York* 10-16-45  
 Amid flashing bulbs and busy telephones, the biggest publicity campaign in prizefight history was launched officially yesterday as heavyweight champion Joe Louis signed ceremoniously to defend his crown in the ring's richest fight next June. A \$100 top price for seats is in prospect.

Louis—dapper in tan garbardine topcoat, green sweater and green shirt, and sporting a wee mustachio—signed at 20th Century headquarters to defend his title against Billy Conn or "any suitable opponent" to be designated by Promoter Mike Jacobs.

The "kicker" clause about any suitable opponent was inserted merely to whip Conn of Pittsburgh into line when Billy-the-Kid goes into a huddle with Jacobs on Wednesday or Thursday about dividing receipts of the classic—receipts that Jacobs estimates may range between \$3,000,000 and \$10,000,000. Conn is expected to sign immediately after this conference.

Louis signed alone—probably the first prominent fighter since the days of Jimm Figg to affix his signature to such an important contract without the protective presence of a manager. Neither of Joe's previous co-pilots, John Roxborough and Julian Black, were present. Only Manny Seaman, Joe's trainer, was on hand. When questioned about the absence of his managers, Louis evaded by talking golf.

The exact site and date for the heavyweight extravaganza were not specified in the contract, which stated that they would be determined by Jacobs "at least 40 days prior to the scheduled event." The date is expected to be about June 26. Louis said he would prefer to fight in Detroit, his home city but Jacobs emphasized there were many factors to be considered before selecting the site—seating capacity of the stadium, television prospects, movie and radio angles.

With tickets for the big fight selling at \$100 tops, Jacobs expects the gate alone to approximate



\$3,000,000. The addition of receipts from radio, movies and television may boost the total take between \$7,000,000 and \$10,000,000. Nothing ever approximated this in previous boxing history—not even the two Jack Dempsey-Gene Tunney classics.

An important clause in the champion's contract prevents Louis from engaging in any boxing match or exhibition before the Conn fight, without the written consent of Jacobs.

In connection with this clause, Jacobs declared "Louis will have no tune-up for this bout. Whether he has any exhibitions will be determined later. But there will be absolutely no tune-up. And, since Louis will put his title on the line without a preparatory fight, I shall expect Conn to enter the ring in June without a tune-up. I imagine I'll have trouble with Conn and his handlers when we confer Wednesday or Thursday. I understand they want a couple of tune-ups. . . ."

Louis said he weighed 219 pounds, 205 for Conn. He plans to entrain tomorrow for Los Angeles, stopping off briefly at Chicago. He will relax in the California sunshine, playing plenty of golf. Unless other arrangements are made, he will remain in Los Angeles until January. Then he may make a brief exhibition tour of the United States, or Europe. He will begin training in March for the June bout.

Louis, 31, received his honorable discharge from the Army at Camp Shanks, N. Y., on Oct. 1, after 44 months in service. He then attended the world series at Detroit and Chicago.

Jacobs, commenting upon yesterday's ceremony, said, "I would have signed Louis earlier for this fight—it's so important; but I couldn't because he was in the army; and Conn too."

A reporter asked Jacobs if Conn's contract would stipulate that Billy must give Louis a return shot at the title if Conn takes the crown in June.

"It certainly will contain such a provision," Jacobs replied, "whether

Conn wants it or not."

# Billy Conn Refuses To Sign

*The Atlanta Constitution*  
*Atlanta, Georgia* 10-18-45  
 NEW YORK, Oct. 17.—(AP)—Billy Conn, outstanding challenger for Joe Louis' heavyweight title, today refused to sign a contract for a bout with Louis next June.

Conn and his manager, Johnny Kay, objected to a clause in the contract stipulating that Conn could not engage in tuneup bouts or exhibitions without the permission of Promoter Mike Jacobs. Ray said that he wanted Conn to have three preliminary fights. He added that he wanted his lawyers to read the contract before signing to see if there were any other undesirable features.

A hot argument between Ray and Jacobs over the clause barring tuneups or exhibitions without the promoter's permission lasted fully 30 minutes.

When Jacobs pointed out that Louis signed a contract containing a similar clause, Ray replied: "I can't talk for Louis. I don't manage Louis. I manage Conn."

Ray said later he had telephoned his lawyer, Dave B. Pitler, in Pittsburgh to come to New York and read the contract.

Conn said he tipped the scales at 190 pounds stripped when he last weighed a few days ago. The Pittsburgh challenger weighed 174 when he met Louis the first time.

*The San Francisco Chronicle*  
 SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 12.—(UP)—World's Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis today was signed for a four-round exhibition bout in Civic Auditorium here on Thursday, Nov. 15, 1945. Promoter Frank Scaler announced today.



## Louis Of Opinion He'll Have To Kayo Conn To Win Heavyweight Title Bout

OAKLAND, Calif., Nov. 1—(AP)—Plain Citizen Joe Louis, erstwhile technical sergeant in the Army and a handy man to have around in case of a "beef," said today:

1. He'll have to knock out Billy Conn to win their bout for the world's heavyweight championship next Summer.

2. Baseball did itself a service through the signing of Jackie Robinson, Negro star, by the Brooklyn farm club at Montreal.

3. Golf is fun. 11-2-45

Louis, king of the heavyweights, had this to say about Conn in an interview:

"I knew I was behind on points going into the 13th round the first time I fought him. Maybe my handlers though I wasn't, but I saw a lot of Billy's gloves and I knew best. I expect him to out-box me again. That man, he's fast, mister. But I'll beat him, and the only way I can do it is cool him. When Soon as I can." 11-2-45

Proof that the "brown bomber" still has his popularity was the capacity turnout at the Oakland auditorium where he refereed the semi-final bout of a fight card last night.

Louis expects to scale down to 205 from his current 221 before the Conn fight, and thinks most of it can be melted off on a golf course.

## Conn-Louis Bout Is Strictly Business To Mike Jacobs

BY WHITNEY MARTIN

NEW YORK, Nov. 1—(AP)—If a man can get \$20,000 for a house he's not going to sell it for \$10,000, even if he knows the place is worth only \$5,000 because it has termites, spraying water pipes, creaky joints and fallen arches due to the inroads of time. 11-2-45

So if Mike Jacobs can peddle the Billy Conn-Joe Louis fight for \$100 a ringside seat he couldn't be expected to sell the seats at \$10 a throw even if he knew, is production, due to age and deterioration of the leading characters, would be no bargain if \$1.98 would buy you a seat in one of the neutral corners.

In other words, Mr. Jacobs will get for his seats all the traffic, will bear, and if he can find suckers enough to fill up the ringside pews at 100 bucks a fill, that's his privilege, and also would seem to be good business sense.

Mr. Jacobs professes to no altruistic motive in planning the fight. It's obviously nothing more than a business proposition with him, and as a business man he's out to make as much money as he can. The

only price ceiling is his conscience. That and the ability to find enough buyers for his wares.

Whether the fight is worth \$100 a seat is neither here nor there. It all depends on an individual's sense of values, anyway. Some people wouldn't pay \$100 for a ringside seat at the battle of Leningrad but would pay \$100 to hear a lecture on the Einstein theory. Other wouldn't give a used streetcar transfer to hear all the scientists in the world, but would pay \$1,000 to watch a fight between two large physical specimens with nothing more complex in their minds than a determination to try to knock each other's brains out.

No matter what the bout draws, Louis and Conn are not going to get rich. The astronomical figures mentioned in connection with the affair might leave the impression the two men could retire to the peace and quiet of Times Square, but that is an illusion.

Just bouncing figures around loosely, suppose Louis' share of the gate is \$1,000,000. Through an oversight on our part, as we forgot to make that much money, we are unable to tell from personal experience just how much the government takes out of a sum like that. Mike Jacobs roughly estimates \$900,000, which is very rough, particularly on Louis.

At the time of the Louis-Conn bout that never reached the ring early in the war, it was reported Louis owed about \$126,000 in taxes.

Figuring the figures above are at least on the outskirts of accuracy, it would leave Louis still owing about \$26,000 after earning a million. That would be figuring, of course, that Louis kept all of the million at least until the government got its hooks in it. We are not taking into account the amount the champion's board of directors gets out of his purses.

We haven't audited Conn's books lately, so don't know his financial situation, or maybe it should be predicament. The chances are that he, too, is having more troubles than a Dachshund in a revolving door. 11-2-45

Anyway, we are worrying particularly about how much Mr. Jacobs is going to charge for ringside seats, or how many millions the gate totals. We're talking about it because it's nice to discuss such amounts.

By the way, has anyone got two bits he can spare until Saturday?

## THE CHAMP'S RISE IN RING HISTORY IS UNEQUALED

*The Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*  
NEW YORK — (ANP) — Everything Ancient King Midas touched, magically turned to gold. Save for Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney, no boxers in the annals of fistiana has possessed the box office appeal brownskinned Joe Louis has.

That doesn't surprise me one bit. Name me a fighter who has quibbled less over his prospective opponent as the transplanted Alabama meat chopper has. With the papers finally signed, sealed and in the itchy fingers of Michael Strauss Jacobs, fight promoter extraordinary, we look for some writer of vision to start calling Joe . . . "The Billion Dollar Kid." 11-10-45

Could Use Some Real Cash

The consensus of newspaper men and other expert opinion is that the Louis-Conn shindig will gross between five and seven million dollars. It's no secret that Louis has for the past two seasons been "property poor." Ready cash in the amounts the bomber has lately been accustomed to, just hasn't been hanging around loose where he shacks up at. It has long been a thought of mine that the moment Jacobs was certain of the match he'd proceed to give Louis what cabaret owners style—"a draw."

A "draw" represented a slight advance of the weekly salary of a chorine or principal thus enabling them to tide themselves over until payday. Doubtless in the case of an important person like Joe Louis a tenth of a million dollars might easily constitute a reasonable "draw" on Jacobs' part.

His Rise Unequaled In Ring History

Dating back to that memorable day 10 years ago when the tawny-skinned 21 year old fighter skyrocketed to fame, his rise from challenger to champion has never been equalled. The ominous shadow of the ex-auto mechanic of Detroit fell squarely across the midsummer night's dreams of white heavyweight boxing king Jim Braddock during the summer of 1936. Louis was faced with one idea—the winning of the world's heavyweight championship, and to wear said mantle more nobly than did Jack Johnson.

Phlegmatic, a non-smoker and

drinker, his few voices were far overshadowed by his countless virtues. Prior to lifting the title from Braddock the boy who had been a cotton picker in the fields of Alabama purchased a \$25,000 home for his mother, Lilly Barrow. He also presented her with a \$3,000 automobile, salting away the rest of his ring earnings up to this time in annuities. Proud of race with a fierceness and intensity that defies word description, Joe was vocal in his determination to make his race proud of him.

A "Picture Build" Insures Success

Wide shoulders that sloped perceptibly, strong legs, loose muscles plus a short-coupled body, marked Joe Louis of championship timbre from the very beginning of his early youth. Blackburn, (God rest him) taught Louis the almost-forgotten-art of hitting where one's hands are. Boiled down so that the laymen readily understands, this means; never pulling the fist back an inch before letting it fly. Hitting from any position with devastating force without telegraphing the intention to your opponent. Once the bell rings starting hostilities, Louis is absolutely merciless. Like Jack Dempsey, the old Manassa mauler, Louis has always been bad medicine on his sparmates, most of whom have been colored. I've seen him whale giants into unconsciousness satisfied that the \$25 daily retainer would bring hordes more to the training camp the following day. The lucky seventh of eight children, Joe's father, Munn Barrow, died two years after the present heavyweight titleholder was born.

Overcome Typical Ring Flaws

Louis boasted no blueprint with which to chart ring perfection. His "Achilles heel" differed not one iota from any other fighter.

Banged on the ching by murderous punchers like Schmeling, Galento and others, Louis sank to the floor like other boxers do. Well do I recall Joe's painful experience against a white youngster named Johnny Miller who had represented us in the Olympic games. Miller, a deadly puncher for a simon-pure, knocked Louis down seven times in taking an amateur decision from the Brown Bomber. Each time the pebble-game brown kid got back to his feet and fought gamely on.

I contended in defending the lad who later was to earn ranking with the all time ring greats, that all boxers were vulnerable to a chin-haymaker. He got over that brutal whipping Miller doled out, only four amateurs winning over him prior to his annexation of the 175 pound National AAU title back in 1934. These boxers were Miller, Stanley Evans, Clinton Bridges (also a national 175 pound king), and Max Marek, Notre Dame football players who defeated Louis in '33. All but two of Louis' first seven professional fights ended in kayos for him. Patsy Perroni and Natie Brown, were the two men who gained what amounted to national fame by staying the full distance with the colored killer.

John Roxborough, Michigan U., grad and Julian Black, who represented himself as an insurance broker, were men of means when they snagged Louis from Adler Ellis, Detroit boxing instructor. Just how much money Louis has actually received from the Jacobs-Black combine might well never be known. Your guess would be just about as close to the truth as mine. Suffice it to say that—the most picturesque colored fighter of all times has earned millions with his glove-encased fists even if he is not in the millionaire class himself. Rumor has it that Louis has designs on re-winning the heart of lovely Marva Trotter-Louis, mother of his healthy baby, Jacqueline.

Joe Louis boxed his first exhibition the other night in San Francisco and chased one guy all over the ring and belted the second who decided to exchange blows with him. But Joe was not satisfied with his condition. Said the champ: "My timing is 'way off and it is going to take a lot of work to get back into shape." N.Y. N.Y. Louis, who weighs 221, will begin serious training in March, and will take off the extra poundage rather easily. Daily Worker



# Joe Louis Due To Quit Ring Broke

NEW YORK, Nov. 13.—(INS)—Joe Louis, the poor but honest heavyweight champion, could keep fighting for the next 10 years, under existing income tax rates, still "would wind up broke."

That was one statement vouchsafed today by Promoter Jacobs in impulsively answering a direct question as to whether or not Louis had dismissed his co-managers, Julian Black and John Roxborough. Another was that Louis, having held the championship more than eight years while fighting for \$5,000,000 in aggregate receipts, now is approximately \$200,000 in arrears of nothing.

Most of the money is owed to the young man's two uncles, Sam, of the Treasury Department, and Mike, of "Jacobs' Beach," alias Plug-Ugly Plaza.

"They're talking of moderating taxes in Washington," said Mike in this connection. "Unless they do, Louis is a cinch to finish with nothing. He'll never catch up with himself."

## Brown Bomber Rusty In 2-Round Workout

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 13.—(UP) World Heavyweight Boxing Champion Joe Louis opened training for his coming fight with Billy Conn by sparring two rounds with Gene Felton Monday before 1,000 fans at Orner's Main Street gym.

Weighing 220 pounds, Louis vetoed a plan to spar four rounds.

"I don't think I could go more than two," he said. "I'm pretty rusty."

The first round was slow, but in the second Louis sent Felton on the ropes and opened a big gash in his lip.

He came into the gym after shooting a 75 at Hillcrest Golf Club in the morning.

## LOS ANGELES SEEKS LOUIS-CONN FIGHT

New York Times Memorial Coliseum, Seating

Over 104,000. Offered for

Title Bout Next Year

N. Y., N. Y.

Los Angeles yesterday was added to the list of boxing centers seeking the heavyweight cham-

pionship bout next year in which Joe Louis is to defend his title against Billy Conn.

Boosting to an even half dozen the cities which want this outstanding post-war fistic attraction—New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit and Indianapolis already are in with bids—Promoter Mike Jacobs last night said he was giving serious consideration to an invitation to hold the bout in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, extended by L. J. Roach, Los Angeles supervisor and president of the recently reorganized Coliseum Commission.

Mr. Roach was in conference with Jacobs yesterday afternoon. He is returning to the Coast immediately to report to his Commission.

Jacobs did not commit himself definitely, but he admitted he was impressed by the bid, which offers for his use a stadium with a seating capacity of 104,000, which can be increased to 150,000 by using space in the field.

### New Commission Ruling

A recent decision of the Coliseum Commission made the invitation possible. Heretofore, professional sports attractions were barred. Under the new arrangement one championship bout a year may be held there. The commission is composed of three California State representatives, three city representatives and three representatives of Los Angeles County.

"I am convinced Los Angeles offers the ideal site for the Louis-Conn battle," said Mr. Roach. "We want it there and will cooperate in every way with Mr. Jacobs if he accepts our invitation. I'll guarantee the bout will draw as big, if not a bigger, gate in Los Angeles than it would elsewhere. And there is no stadium in the country to rival ours in capacity."

Mr. Roach placed the rental of the Coliseum at 10 per cent of the gross receipts and Jacobs submitted a counter proposal. This is one of the things Mr. Roach will discuss with his associates on his return to Los Angeles.

### Site of Olympic Games

Satisfied with the experience he had when he promoted a bout between Louis and Jack Roper in the Los Angeles ball park in 1939, Jacobs said the latest invitation appealed to him if a suitable rental can be agreed upon. It was in the Coliseum the Olympic Games of 1936 were conducted. Since that occasion the arena has been devoted exclusively to amateur sport.

Jacobs, according to his contracts, must announce the place where the bout will be held forty days before the date agreed upon. He said he expects to be in a position to make the announcement long before that time and reiter-

ated that he had not committed himself to any of the proposals submitted for his consideration since he announced plans for the match. 11-17-45

## Louis, Who Made Hash of Foes Planning to Open Restaurant

Richmond Times By Whitney Martin

Associated Press Staff Writer

Joe Louis plans to open a eatery and drinkery here about April 1, thereby risking the censure of prize fighters' Local No. 401, as it is customary to wait until the gloves are hung up for keeps before opening one of these joint-establishments. 11-15-45

Anyway, a question-and-answer program involving the champion might be expected to go something like this:

Question—What kind of meat do you expect to serve, Joe?

Louis—Bear meat. Those Baer boys, Maxie and Buddy, were pretty tough, but my meat won't be that way.

Question—What will you have to drink?

"Pastorized" Milk

Louis—Thanks, I don't drink. Oh, you mean in my place. Well, I'll have the finest wines and liquors and coffee and tea and milk, Pastorized milk. Say, I wonder how Bob is doing these days?

Question—How will you run the place? Strictly high class, heh?

Louis—Yes, sir. We'll keep out all undesirables. None of these Conn men will be hanging around. Billy, he hung around quite a while before. Understand he's coming around again. 11-15-45

Question—Think you'll have enough money to pay the help? Costs money to run a high-class place, you know.

Louis—I'll be all right. The help will get their Paycheks every Saturday night. That reminds me, I met a fellow named Paycheck once, didn't I? Johnny Paycheck, wasn't it?

Question—That's right, but it was a very brief meeting so you've probably forgotten it. How are you going to keep the food fresh?

Louis—Big refrigerators. That will keep it from Schmeling. I took care of that Maxie the second time, didn't I?

Not Far Uptown

Question—No argument there. Where is your new place located?

Louis—Just up town a little ways. Not Farr. That Tommy Farr was a tough one, wasn't he? Had plenty trouble with that boy.

Question—Have you a good cook lined up?

Louis—The best. Everything will be done Brown. Remember Natie? He stayed 10 rounds with me once.

Question—Are you going to serve fish?

Louis—Sure, Braddock. I mean Haddock. Jim was a game fighter, wasn't he? Sorry I had to beat him for the title.

Question—Are you going to have entertainers?

Professional Entertainers

Louis—Yes, sir, and all good professionals. No Simon-pures for me. I certainly had to hit that Abe Simon plenty times to beat him.

Question—In other words, nothing but the best, heh?

Louis—Absolutely. Real Tony. That Galento was a round little man, wasn't he? And he could hit real good.

Question—You're not spoofing, are you, Joe? You're really planning to open a place?

Louis—It's the McCoy. Seems to me I met a fellow by that name once. 11-15-45

Question—Yes, Al McCoy, but you only met him professionally.

What will you say when you go to the cash register to check the day's receipts, Joe?

Louis—Another lucky night, folks.

## The Brown Bomber

JOE LOUIS: AMERICAN. By Margery Miller. Illustrated. 181 pp. New York: Current Books. \$2.

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

THIS biography of the heavyweight boxing champion of the world is as plain as its title. With no pretensions to fine writing, Miss Miller relates the amazing life of Joseph Louis Barrow, known the world over as Joe Louis. And, it might be noted, Miss Miller is somewhat amazing herself, being almost certainly the only Wellesley graduate (1945) ever to write a book about a prizefighter. 12-2-45

Readers of the sports pages are familiar with the story of the brown-skinned, torpid-eyed Louis who began life in a log cabin in the deep South and who, by the proper application of his punching power, fought his way to the most exalted and most remunerative title in the entire realm of athletics. Every step taken by the Brown Bomber in his upward climb is described. His migration to Detroit from

the Bukalew Mountain region of Alabama, guided by his mother and accompanied by his numerous brothers and sisters; his limited schooling, his errand-boy earnings, his job in the Ford factory. 12-2-45

And so, of course, are the ring battles, most of them presented in great detail. Considerable space is devoted to Louis' two clashes with Max Schmeling, the only professional fighter ever to defeat Joe. The author sobs with her hero when he is knocked out in the first meeting and exults with him when he dispatches Schmeling in near-record time in the second. Schmeling is the "villain in the piece," and Miss Miller makes a great point of Louis' beating him, practically crediting the Bomber with having struck a blow against the entire system of nazism. As a matter of fact, Schmeling was at most an opportunist who would be "all things to all men." And it is doubtful if Louis, at the time, was concerned with ideologies.

THE reader is also reminded that while Louis was gradually making his way to fistic fame and personal fortune, he was ever conscious of his duty to his race. The champion of the ring is also the champion of the Negro, and Miss Miller has made a virtual Booker T. Washington of hard-fisted Joe.

Louis' eminence as a "model" did not come about through accident, Miss Miller reveals. She tells how John Roxborough, a Chicago Negro attorney, discovered Joe in an amateur ring, engaged the best of pugilistic instruction for him, and instilled in him the resolution to conduct himself always in a manner that would bring credit to the Negro. It is ironic that Roxborough, the preceptor, fell from grace, but the fighter remembered his lessons well. Even those who have felt the force of Joe's explosive punches can't say a word against him.

### Former Joe Louis Land

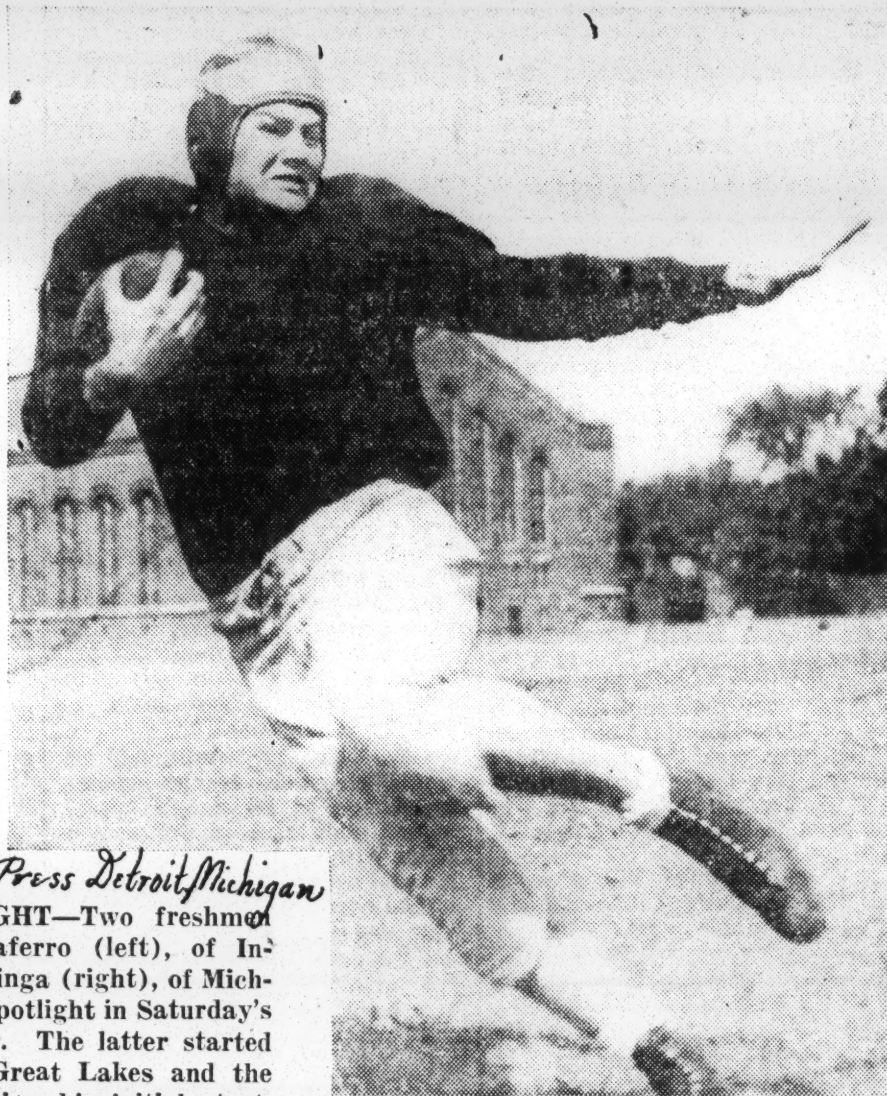
To Be Made Into Park  
Lansing, Mich. Spring Hill Farm, the former Joe Louis property that was purchased by the State last November will be one of the first recreation areas in southeastern Michigan to be readied for public use. The State will spend \$50,000 on the 428-acre estate to make it into a park. 12-12-45



*Detroit Free Press*

*Detroit Free Press Detroit, Michigan*  
 9-22-45

**SHARE SPOTLIGHT**—Two freshmen backs, George Taliaferro (left), of Indiana, and Walt Teninga (right), of Michigan, will share the spotlight in Saturday's game at Ann Arbor. The latter started last week against Great Lakes and the former will be making his initial start.



**Big Ten's Best  
 Afro-American  
 Baltimore, Md.**



**MELVIN GROOMES,**

sophomore halfback of Indiana University's crack eleven, who last week was checked off as the leading ground gainer in Big Ten conference gridiron circles, even outrunning his more celebrated teammate, George Taliaferro. Groomes, a Trenton, N.J., product, has gained 136 yards in four games for an average of 6.5 yards in 21 rushes.

**Three Negroes  
 On Pitt Squad**  
*The Chicago Defender*  
 Chicago, Illinois  
 Four On Illinois;

**Buddy Young Missed**  
 9-29-45

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Playing for the first time in the history of the University of Pittsburgh, three Negro halfbacks displayed plenty of speed and showed well in the Illinois 23 to 6 victory over the Pitt Panthers here in Memorial stadium on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 22, as Illinois opened its 56th intercollegiate football season.

Jimmy Robinson of Connellsville, Pa., started at halfback for Pitt while Herb Douglas, the junior national AAU sprint and broad jump champion, and Austin Carter, two Pittsburghers, went in at halfback positions when Robinson was taken out.

**DUE TO THE SLIPPERY** footing caused by the rain, the Negro backs were unable to get away although they were responsible for practically all of Pitt's yardage from scrimmage although it was only a total of 22 while Illinois

was able to gain 213 on ten first downs.

Johnson was nailed on the fourth down when Pitt needed but one foot for a touchdown. All three made spectacular tackles. Johnson proved to be a good pass receiver. Illinois won because of experience, the Pitt eleven being green.

Missing on the Illini were last year's trio of Negro stars, Buddy Young and Don Johnson, both from Wendell Phillips high of Chicago, and Paul Patterson, Aurora. All are in the navy. This year, Charles Starks, Charleston, W. Va., was back at substitute half Saturday, getting into the game in the final three minutes. Also in the game in the last half minute was Vernon Stevenson of Los Angeles.

On the Illini squad were Otis Finney, teammate of Buddy Young at Phillips, a halfback, and Ted Austin, a guard from Chicago's Waller high. They didn't get into Saturday's battle.

**Indiana Has Star  
 Negro Backfield  
 Ace, 3 On Squad**  
*The Louisiana Weekly*  
 New Orleans, La.  
 9-29-45

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Bloomington, Ind., Sept. 26.—

They're talking this week about a 195-pound freshman fullback from Gary, Ind., who did for Indiana Saturday against Michigan what in recent years Tom Harmon and Tom Kuzma, also of Gary, did for Michigan against Indiana and other Big Ten schools.

This freshman sensation is George Taliaferre, who paced Bo McMillin's boys to a 13 to 7 victory Saturday. Taliaferre carried the hog hide on 21 of the Hoosiers' 48 rushes, making 104 of the 165 yards gained on the ground by the victors. Capable of running wide or inside, he had gains of 15 and 13 yards, one of 10 and three of 9. He completed three passes, one for

a touchdown, did most of the Indiana kicking, and was a star on defense.

Also in the spotlight was Melvin Groomes, a halfback who had speed to burn. A marvelous pass catcher, he made a sensational one handed snare of a heave and then outran Michigan to cross for a touchdown 25 yards from the reception.

**BUDDY YOUNG RACES  
 80 YARDS TO SCORE**  
*Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier*  
 11-24-45

SAN FRANCISCO—Paced by the brilliant running of Buddy Young, ex-Illinois satellite, and Steve Juzwik, former Notre Dame star, Fleet City Bluejackets swamped the Los Angeles Broncos 41-6 at Kezar Stadium Armistice Day.

Juzwik caught a punt and galloped ninety-three yards for a score in the second period while Young sprinted eighty yards in the third quarter for another tally.

Both runs were classics of open field running and gave the crowd 20,000 spine-tingling thrills.

The Bronc team was made up of former collegiate and pro stars.





**THE LOW DOWN**  
Daily Worker  
Monday Morning Roundup:  
**Negro Gridders Excel**  
*New York, New York*  
By Nat Low

That was quite a Saturday of football past passed. Navy eking out a last half-minute victory over the best Penn team since the Odell eleven of 1940; Ohio State rebounding from last week's defeat at the hands of Purdue and violently upsetting hitherto unbeaten Minnesota; Purdue going down before an allegedly weak Northwestern outfit; and Army's Cadets ripping Duke in every period.

Thus, with the grid campaign not yet half over there are only four major teams still with unblemished records, Army, Notre Dame, Navy and Columbia, which does not rank with the real powers of the land.

As usual, the midwest has a corner on the market, even though Notre Dame, of all its teams, is the only one still undefeated. In Ohio State, Minnesota, Purdue, Northwestern, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois the midwest has an aggregation that could easily roll any combination of teams from the rest of the country. Even Army, mighty as it is, would not be able to survive a schedule that called upon it to face these clubs in successive weeks. And fumbling Navy wouldn't stand a chance.

In fact, the Middies are mighty lucky to still be up there with the nation's leaders. Penn had this game seemingly in the bag and it took an ex-Penn hero, Tony Minisi, to hurl the last ditch pass that brought them to victory.

This Navy outfit, which started the season with a fanfare of publicity, has staggered through from week to week, missing opportunity upon opportunity and winning only by sheer weight of numbers. However, they win, and that's what counts. If they can develop a cohesive offensive and rid themselves of their undelightful penchant for fumbling Army's Cadets may yet know what it is like to taste defeat.

And speaking of a team that may defeat Army, we cannot overlook Notre Dame which galloped easily to a 56-0 victory over Iowa with its first string playing for only 11 short minutes. True the South Benders have not yet faced sturdy-enough opposition, but they've got speed and power plus an ever-dangerous passing attack spearheaded by Frank Daucewicz and with the memory of last year's 69-0 slaughter at the hands of Army they will be twice as tough.

The weekend also was a considerable success for the many Negro gridders who are playing on major teams. Bill Ford, the giant end of Michigan who dumped Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard so many times at Yankee Stadium last week, was magnificent in his team's victory over Illinois.

Mel Groomes, the stalwart Negro halfback for Bo McMillan's Indiana Hoosiers, helped mightily in handing Tulsa its first defeat of the year at Bloomington while Cornell's Paul Robeson, Jr., although not up to par after a long absence from the grid, helped the Big Red score its only touchdown against Yale's Blues. Robeson, recently switched back to fullback, needed that game under his belt before getting into stride. This week he will come down to New York for the contest with undefeated Columbia and I have an idea the Lions may be heading for their first serious struggle of the season.

To switch from the grid to the diamond, over the weekend still more prominent persons in sports hailed the signing of Jackie Robinson, including the Daily Mirror's sports editor, Dan Parker, Boston's scrapping columnist Dave (Colonel) Egan and the sports editor of the Los Angeles News. Also, the YMCA sent a message to Branch Rickey congratulating him and saying the signing of Robinson was a victory for democracy.



**THE LOW DOWN**  
The Fight Against Jimcrow  
Is Beginning to Pay Off  
*Daily Worker*  
By Nat Low

The material we carried yesterday on Claude "Buddy" Young, the great Negro football star from the University of Illinois who has been playing with the Fleet City (California) Bluejackets this season after one year with the Great Lakes Naval team, is more important than just a recapitulation of a marvelous athlete.

Young's amazing success and popularity with fans, players, coaches and writers can only be viewed in context, as part of the growing fight for the full integration of the Negro people in our country's vast sports life.

It cannot be separated from the tremendous achievements of Joe Louis, Henry Armstrong and Ray Robinson in the ring; it cannot be divorced from the relentless fight put up for years against baseball Jimcrow; it cannot be taken apart from the recent signing of Jackie Robinson by Montreal.

And lastly, it is an integral part of the entire picture which yesterday revealed that a Negro player had been signed by the Bakersfield club of the California League. (See above.)

These things, as I have pointed out, are all part of one picture. They show that discrimination against the Negro people in sports is going by the boards, that more and more millions of Americans are realizing the absurdity of Jimcrowing great athletes simply because the color of their skin is black.

The most significant part of the Buddy Young story is not that he is being called "one of the greatest backs of all time" but that he is being so classified by white Southerners who are coming in close contact with Negroes for the first time in their lives.

That is the key point. As Vincent X. Flaherty of the Los Angeles Examiner wrote last week, Young's closest friends are the white Southerners on the squad, the Harry "Hippity" Hopps, the Frank "Bruiser" Kinards and the Steve Juzwicks.

These men are all All-American athletes. Hopp and Kinard are famous stars of the National Professional Football League and will return to their teams upon discharge from the Navy. And the friendships built during their playing days with Young will carry over and, I am sure, will lead to an end of Jimcrow in pro-football as well as baseball.

These developments have come about only as a result of a long and militant fight. That fight is now beginning to pay off. The wall of discrimination in sports is beginning to crack in spots and will crumble like a house of cards under the impact of a few more powerful blows.

Two weeks ago we carried a story which showed that Negro football players played on most of the nation's top college teams this season. Some of these Negro gridders broke traditions that had lasted for 200 years. (Mel Murchison was the first Negro ever to play for Princeton, for instance!)

This is quite a step forward in American sports life. And it is heartening to all honest, decent people who believe in and practice democracy.

It is in this light that the fame of Buddy Young must be seen. He is only the latest in a long line of great Negro athletes who by their talent, character and courage are helping rid our country of the disease of Jimcrow. They, plus the continuing fight of all real democrats, will guarantee the final and complete eradication of discrimination from American sports.

**Buddy Young and Company Win Another Game**  
*The Pittsburgh Courier*

SAN FRANCISCO — Fleet City Bluejackets kept its season's record unsullied Sunday at Kezar Stadium by coming from behind to defeat Fourth Air Force Flyers 20-10. The Flyers were ahead 10-7 early in the fourth quarter but the winners rallied to score twice.

Buddy Young, stellar Bluejacket scabbard, failed to score but set up his team's first tally in the third period with a nine-yard run.

Both he and his former Illini teammate, Paul Patterson, turned in splendid all-around performances.

The game attracted 50,000. A throng of 85,000 are expected in Los Angeles Sunday, Dec. 9, when the Bluejackets meet El Toro Marines at Memorial Coliseum.



# Can't Be a Jimcrow If You Love Sports: Negro Ace Piggott

By BILL MARDON 11-21-45

The Tuskegee Army Air Field gridders trotted onto the Polo Grounds at two o'clock yesterday afternoon for their first workout here since arriving from Alabama two days ago—and their next to final practice session prior to tomorrow's big charity game against the New London Submarine Base team.

A strong, biting wind whipped across Coogan's Bluff as the all-Negro squad lined up to take turns at cutting downfield for passes thrown by another group of Warhawks. Lieut. Bill Bell, former Ohio State star, watched from the sidelines as his boys loosened up. Tomorrow's contest for the Associated Football Charities marks the first meeting of the Tuskegee team against the mixed Negro and white eleven from New London, and 23,000 one-dollar seats are now on sale for the game.

"We'll try and give the folks a good show," the tall, handsome coach remarked as he dug his hands deeper into the pockets of his trench-coat. It seemed like much of an understatement, since the Warhawks have lost only one game in the last two years. Bell's team, composed of many former college stars, looked in fine fettle as they went through their preliminary paces. They're big fellows, too, averaging 205 pounds on the line, and 190 pounds in the backfield. From the general horsing around the first few minutes of practice, it appeared that none of the boys were being bothered by the cold weather. One speedy end raced sharply across the turf for a long pass, and when the pigskin zipped sharply away from him, he grunted and smilingly roared back at the tosser: "Who d'ya think I am, Don Hutson?"

Within half an hour, Coach Bell called a halt to the loosening-up session, and separated his varsity and second stringers into two squads. For the next 45 minutes they went through some intensive play-calling exercises. Next came the punting practice, and first to boot the pigskin around was Bert Piggott, the famed star of the team and also the smallest man on the squad. After getting off a few long ones, the ex-Illinois halfback and this writer went back to the Polo Grounds clubhouse, where we warmed our hands over the radiator. "This cold weather's gonna give you writer's cramp," he joked, and fullback Jerry Williams who was rubbing down his ailing ankle, looked up and smiled.

Piggott, who tips the beams at 190 and stands five feet ten inches, is a soft-spoken, shy young man with friendly brown eyes and a warm, engaging smile. Born 25 years ago in the tiny Virginia town of Norge, his family migrated north to Hinsdale, Ill., when he was four years old. It was there where he attended grammar school and Hinsdale Township High. He was the only Negro on the Hinsdale eleven. 11-21-45

"None of the other guys on the team paid any attention to my color—all of us played as one."

No discrimination there. But my best sport in high school was basketball, and later at Illinois University I got a real taste of Jimcrow. It seems no Negroes are allowed to play Big Ten basketball, and when they told me that, I felt like quitting school. But I changed my mind and decided to stick it out."

Piggott wanted to study medicine, but later switched to physical education. In December of 1942, he enlisted into the ROTC while at school and was inducted three months later. He spent ten months at both Fort Monmouth and Camp



Bert Piggott Gets Set to Heave One.

Murphy studying radio and radar—and was a clerk-typist for one year in the Eastern Flying Training Command. After that came his transfer to the Tuskegee Army Air Field base in Alabama.

As far as the war was concerned, Piggott said: "I can feel inside of me that there's been a gain for the Negro people because of this war. I spoke to some guys at Tuskegee who had been in the mixed combat units in Europe, and they told me over there every man stood on his own ability, regardless of race, creed or color."

The Tuskegee team's leading ground-gainer hailed the signing of Jackie Robinson as "a great step forward." But he emphasized that "the fight isn't over until not one, but many Negroes are

signed by the big leagues."

So, too, said Piggott, must Jimcrow in professional football be ended. "That kind of discrimination is just plain stupid. I've played football with white boys for seven years, both in high school and at Illinois, and we all had a perfectly normal relationship. As a matter of fact, two southern players at Illinois, Pat Humphreys from Texas and Tommy Riggs from West Virginia, really had a strong liking for me. Whenever coach Bub Zupke tried to Jimcrow me at times, the rest of the fellows on the team got very sore at him. Why, if a person honestly loves sports he just can't be a Jimcrower."

At this point, coach Billy Bell walked in and reminded me that Piggott had to hurry away or else he'd be late for a broadcast. But before he rose to leave, Piggott looked at me silently for a while, fussed with his helmet, and then softly said: "Democracy is what Lincoln once said about government of the people, for the people and by the people. Well, the Negroes are part of those people that Lincoln was talking about."



# 1945 a Bad Year for Jimcrow on Gridiron

**The Worker**  
By NAT LOW

A seven-week survey by The Worker, just completed reveals that Jimcrow in college and Army football has been dealt a smashing blow this year. **N.Y., N.Y.**

Throughout the country, on college as well as service teams, Negro and white athletes are playing side by side—not only without friction but with intimate and successful cooperation.

The Worker poll shows that a majority of the major football teams north of the Mason-Dixon line have at least one Negro player. Many of the teams, especially in the industrial midwest, have two, three and as many as four Negro players. **12-2-45**

Many of the Negro gridgers are among the top-notch stars of the country and will probably be named on All-America teams. They include George Taliaferro, the touchdown ace back of Indiana University who has led his team to its first Big Ten championship; Lenny Ford, the giant, smashing end of Michigan who is the only player to dump Army's vaunted Doc Blanchard for a loss this year; and Jimmy Robinson, a fleet halfback for Pitt.

The presence of so many Negro football players is further proof of the falseness of the "argument" that Negro and white athletes cannot get along together.

Particularly revealing is the fact that the overwhelming majority of service teams are mixed. This is in direct contrast to the official Army and Navy policy of segregation.

The Worker poll covered only a small portion of the country's football teams. But 95 percent of the colleges polled had Negro players.

Indiana, Big Ten champion, has three Negroes; Penn State, two; Ohio State, three; Michigan, three; Pitt, four, and Wayne University, two.

In the light of the recent signing by the Dodgers of Lt. Jackie Robinson, it is clear that Negro and white athletes will and are playing together—in friendship and with unprecedented success.

Here are the results of The Worker poll:



LEVI JACKSON



GEORGE TALIAFERRO

INDIANA: This Big Ten championship team has three Negro players: Taliaferro, Mel Groomes and Bill Armstrong, all backs. All three are 18-year-old freshmen with Taliaferro certain to be named on many All-American teams. Against Minnesota two weeks ago he scored three touchdowns in the first period and in the Big Ten title game with Purdue last week he caught the forward pass that set up the first Hoosier score and made victory possible. Groomes, a powerful, speedy runner, is also a splendid blocker. He accounted for a hundred yards in the vital Purdue contest. Armstrong is a second

string back who sees lots of action.

OHIO STATE: Three Negro players on this team. Matt Brown and Clyde Marshall, backs, and Dick Jackson, end. Brown is a hard-plunging runner while Marshall is an excellent passer and blocker.

CORNELL: Paul Robeson Jr., while not the equal of his famous dad, is nevertheless a splendid all-around back who does all of his team's kicking, a lot of running and much pass-snatching.

HARVARD: Chet Pierce, a wiry, speedy runner, is one of the three Negro players ever to make this "Ivy" school's team.

PRINCETON: To handsome Mel Murchison, guard, falls the honor of being the first Negro ever to play for Princeton in its close to 200-year history. He is transferring to Penn shortly because he intends to study medicine.

MICHIGAN: Three players, end Lenny Ford, a sure-shot All-American, and Horace Coleman and Wendell Sneed, backs. All three are first rate players, freshmen, and highly popular.

PENN STATE: Charley Murray, a wonderful passer and Wallace Triplett, 3rd, a hard running and blocking back made the Nittany Lions one of the grid powerhouses of the year. **7.4, 7.4.**

ILLINOIS: Two years ago there were three Negro players with the Illini, including All-American Buddy Young, but they went off to the service and in their place is end Charley Starks.

DETROIT: Little Guy Brown is one of the most talented gridgers of the year. Only 5 ft. 10 in., Brown is a dynamiting runner. Against Marquette he scored twice, once on a 64-yard run, another on a 50-yard dash. In the St. Louis game he scored another and converted three of four extra points and last week in the closing contest with Wayne he scored two more, one of them being a brilliant 78-yard breakaway.

PITT: There are four Negroes with the Panthers and all are backs. Jimmy Robinson, Mike Roussous, Herb Thompson and Allen Carter. Robinson is the best back on the team, fast, swivel-hipped and elusive. He was the leading figure of Pitt's upset victory over Penn State last week, tearing off an 84-yard touchdown gallop for the lone yard score of the game. Roussous is a

bruising blocker and tackler and a terrific kicker. **12-2-45**

DARTMOUTH: Few Negro gridgers ever played for the Indians, and handsome 6 foot 2 inch Fritz Alexander is one of them. A sterling offensive and defensive ace, he has been a 60-minute man all season.

WISCONSIN: Here is one of the best backs of the year, driving Herbert "Hurricane" Mitchell, 200 pounds of hard-hitting football talent.

IOWA: 170-pound tailback Obern Simons, an Army vet, has won plaudits for his running and passing with a poor team.

WAYNE UNIVERSITY: Two Negro aces, John Broughton, tackle, and George Sellers, speedy back have been key men for Wayne this season. **12-2-45**

## SERVICE TEAMS

A War Department official told The Worker that "practically all teams have Negro players" and our poll showed that to be so. Among the leading service teams with Negro players are the following:

CAMP LEE (Virginia): Famed Levi Jackson and Howie Gentry, formerly of Florida A. & M. star on it, playing with white gridgers, many of them Southerners. Jackson is acknowledged to be one of the outstanding service players in the country.

McDILL FIELD (Tampa): This team has Sgt. Hulon Willis, a guard, who plays 60 minutes of every game.

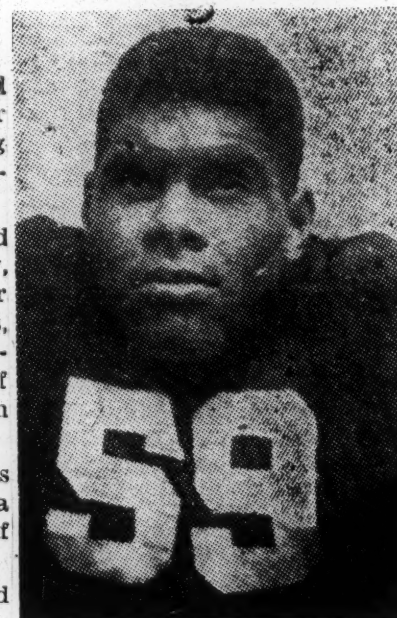
GREAT LAKES: This renowned Naval Training Station which has had many Negro Tars playing for it, boasts Marion Motley, ex-Denver U. back. He was key man in the defeat of Illinois, taking the opening kickoff seven yards behind his goal and running it 80 yards before being downed.

CAMP BEALE (Cal): Of a squad of 35 men, this strong Army team has no less than nine Negro players, including Cpl. John Hobbs, a 215-pound tackle. The team has 22 white players who have placed on various All-America squads.

FORT WARREN (Wyoming): The Broncos are ranked among the top six service teams of the country and have three Negro stars including Kenneth Whitney, end, who was an All-Service selectee last year. Minneapolis sports



MELVIN L. MURCHISON



PAUL ROBESON, JR.

writers voted him the greatest end ever to appear in Minnesota's Memorial Stadium. He is 6 feet, 3 inches and terrific both on defense and offense.

ARMY AIR FORCE (Honolulu): Here is one of the top-notch teams anywhere and on it is Woody Strode, great Negro end who played with Kenny Washington at UCLA. On the Air Force team are many Southern stars, including Jack Jacobs of Oklahoma U., Jim Russell of Baylor U. (Texas) and All-America Bill Dudley.



# Coast Pro Grid Loop Ends Jimcrow; Negro Stars Playing on All 6 Teams

By NAT LOW *Daily Worker*

Democracy in sports has won another resounding triumph. 12-13-45

Jimcrow in professional football on the West Coast has been completely smashed.

The Pacific Coast Pro Football League, the second ranking pro grid loop in the country, has opened its doors to Negro players and as a result, 13 famous Negro stars are playing with the circuit this season.

Headed by UCLA's all-time All-America back, Kenny Washington, colored players are on every one of the loop's six teams, Los Angeles, Hollywood, San Francisco, Oakland, San Diego and San Jose.

## BEARS SIGN FIVE STARS

The Hollywood Bears lead the list with no less than five Negro stars, the Los Angeles Bulldogs have two, the Oakland Giants two, the San Francisco Clippers one, the San Jose Mustangs one and the San Diego Bombers one.

The presence of Negro stars on the teams have brought the league its most successful season in its history which saw all previous attendance records shattered.

The Hollywood eleven, playing at Gilmore Stadium, has, besides Kenny (The Great) Washington, Woody Strode, Kenny's famed pass-catching All-America end from UCLA; Ezrett Anderson, another end from Kentucky State; Chuck Anderson from Ohio State and Clarence Mackey at halfback.

Clem Hooks, a sturdy and speedy wingman, is the star of the Los Angeles Bulldogs, while flashy, swivel-hipped Mel Reid, formerly of the University of San Francisco, is the ace back of the Frisco Clippers.

The teams in the league are studded with former great collegiate stars, 20 percent of whom are Southerners. Newspaper clippings sent to the Daily Worker by friends on the West Coast show that Negro and white players have gotten along splendidly without the slightest bit of the alleged friction which is "supposed" to accompany mixed sports. *new York, N.Y.*

## EASTERN NEWS BAN

The most disgraceful episode in this tremendous development was the ban on the news in the Eastern press. Not a single paper in the East has at any time this season printed news of the non-Jimcrow Coast grid league, although they were undoubtedly very much aware of what was happening there.

The Daily Worker received the news from a Coast sports fan yesterday.

Coast sports writers, who have fought long and valiantly against Jimcrow in sports have hailed the Negro players.

Braven Dyer, sports columnist of the Los Angeles Times, the most authoritative football writer in the West

and probably one of the top grid writers in the country, has written column after column on the Negro players in the league.

Last week he quoted Paul Schissler, famed grid coach, as saying: "You can have Sammy Baugh, Harry Gilmer, Cecil Isbell, Sid Luckman or any other passer you care to name, but just give me Kenny Washington. . . . I've watched Kenny for about ten years as fan and coach and I'll repeat what I've said before—he's the best."

## AMAZING PASSING 12-13-45

Washington, whose 75-yard pass for UCLA in 1939 was the longest completed throw in the history of football, has been a sensation with the Bears. He has scored seven touchdowns, thrown passes good for six more tallies, kicked two field goals and booted 11 points after touchdown.

Against the San Diego Bombers on Oct. 5, Washington got off a phenomenal 65-yard heave to Ezrett Anderson.

And on Nov. 25 he threw two touchdown passes, one for 71 yards and another for 55 yards, the first to Strode and the second to Anderson. 12-13-45

Said columnist Dyer: "Those two touchdown passes by Washington were just out of this world."

Thus another advance in the great fight against Jimcrow in sports has been won. The action of the Pacific Coast grid league will be a real American and it will pave the way for still greater victories to come.

# Editorial

*The Pittsburgh Courier*  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*  
**Indiana's Glory**

Glory, fame, and honor came to the State of Indiana recently. Following a brilliant demonstration during the entire football season, Indiana University capped a dramatic drive by winning the Big Ten football championship. 12-13-45

All ten of the great institutions of learning in the conference were compelled to concede the crown to Indiana's stalwarts.

Ironically enough, this haloed glory came to Indiana partly because of the spectacular, scintillating performances of two athletes of sable hue . . . George Taliaferro, recognized as the outstanding back of the conference, and Mel Groomes of New Jersey.

Taliaferro, mockingly enough, hails from Gary, Ind., recent storm-center of mixed education and citadel of bigotry, intolerance, and hypocrisy.

All during the hectic and gruelling season, Taliaferro and Groomes performed superlatively. Saturday after Saturday, Big George from Gary blistered the chalked

turf of the Big Ten stadiums, fowled over the opposition and sparked his mates to victory and acclaim.

And in the wake of this team's performances . . . for the first time in 56 years . . . Indiana University won the coveted glory. For years untold the students who go to school in Bloomington, ate crow as Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, Chicago, Purdue, Illinois, and Northwestern, made the welking ring as they heralded their conquering grid warriors. 12-81-45

But for Taliaferro, Groomes, et al, there would have been no celebration and no three-day jubilation at the seat of the State university.

The achievement itself is significant and far-reaching. Head Coach "Bo" McMillan, himself a Southerner, who made history when Center College of Kentucky humbled fair Harvard two decades ago, demonstrated to the bigots and hypocrites of Indiana, not only how football should be played, but also how the game of life can be battled out with honor, with dignity, with justice.

Those citizens of Indiana, who permitted the Ku Klux Klan to run rampant a few years ago . . . those narrow-minded "native sons" of the famous Hoosier State, who fostered the notorious D. C. Stephenson (now languishing in durance vile) . . . those miserable souls who fostered racial hatreds, prejudice, and discrimination against colored people, must now feel keenly the stabbing pang of humiliation and remorse.

All the things they espoused and fostered have been revealed and disclosed as being evil and demoralizing.

The measure of true greatness, real Americanism and real sportsmanship has been demonstrated at Indiana University, and two colored lads played leading roles in the demonstration. 12-7-45

We devoutly hope and trust that in winning the Big Ten Championship and conquering the greatest teams in the Midwest, the University of Indiana will spark the way for a new freedom and a new interpretation of democracy in all the vicissitudes of life in the State. For the State has long been regarded as one of the most bigoted above the Mason-Dixon line.

The patterns of segregation and discrimination . . . the activities of the Klan and other iniquitous groups . . . the insidious "color strike" in Gary . . . these have all labelled and stamped Indiana as a hypocritical commonwealth.

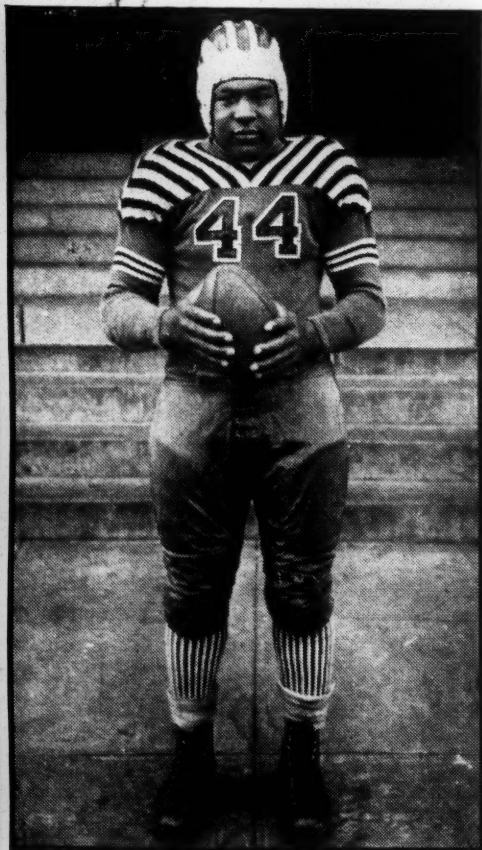
Groomes, Taliaferro, "Bo" McMillan, and the other great players on the winning team have given the State a valuable lesson. May the pattern they establish be followed so that the Hoosier State will become a champion in good sportsmanship and ideal Americanism.



32e-1945  
*Time* magazine  
 Viva Krautclouters!  
 Chicago Ill. 1-15-45

Hot dogs were plentiful, two 56-piece bands blared, a barelegged drum major-ette shivered and strutted, two queens held court at half-time. Italy's Spaghetti Bowl football game at Florence last week (attendance: 25,000) had all the trimmings of any superduper New Year's Day bowl game—and an extra fillip in a cover of P-38s, precaution against a threatened visit from the Luftwaffe.

The intramural offensive was sparked by 230-lb. Corporal John Moody of the Fifth Army Krautclouters, onetime Negro



ATLANTA'S MOODY  
 He had a cover of P-38s.

All-America fullback at Atlanta's Morris Brown College. 1-15-45

Early in the game, "Big Train" galloped 50 yds. in three plays for a touchdown, later intercepted a pass for another, kicked two points after touchdowns, did the punting as well as most of the running. Halfback Private Frank Buel of Nutley, N.J. pitched a fourth-period pass to End Lieut. Art Lemke, a former Georgetown University footballer, for another six-pointer. Final score: Fifth Army 20, Twelfth Air Force 0. The overhead side show was called off when the Germans failed to show up.

Sports- Football

# Buddy Young Inducted; Now 'Boot' In Navy

1-27-45  
 Claude "Buddy" Young, 13017 South Evans avenue, All-America halfback at the University of Illinois, was inducted into the armed services Wednesday in Chicago and immediately was assigned to the United States Navy. He reported, with others, at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center for boot training.

Young last fall equaled Red Grange's record of 13 touchdowns in one season while a member of the famous Illinois team of 1924. Until Young accomplished his feat, Grange's record stood out and had never been equaled.

Buddy was leading scorer in the city public high school league race while a member of Wendell Phillips High school's city league championship team in 1943.

WHILE AT PHILLIPS, he won the National AAU junior 100-yard dash championship. Also he was state interscholastic sprint and broadjump champion, having gone to Champaign with Ranis Thomas, his teammate, and the two brought back the state title to Wendell Phillips.

He was city 100- and 220-yard indoor and outdoor champion and also held the broad jump titles. He also was a good hurdler.

In the Big Ten conference championships, while a freshman at Illinois, he won the conference 100 yards, 220-yards and broad jump titles and was leading the field when he tripped on the barriers at the third hurdle and fell in a heap, forcing him out of the race which was run in a downpour.

Young won the Chicago relays sprint series at the Stadium here last March. 1-27-45

Reports from the university state that with Young on the track meets were the largest in the school's history. His work on the football team brought the university's attendance to grid games to the highest mark since those golden days back in 1924 and '25 when the great Harold "Red" Grange was wearing the color of the University of Illinois and was the nation's idol.

## Negro Grid Loop To Be Organized

Richmond, Va., Aug. 8 (AP).—A five-team Negro professional football league will probably be organized when team officials meet at noon here Sunday. 8-9-45

The Richmond Rams, Newport News Commandos, Portsmouth Swans, Norfolk Brown Bombers and Washington Cavaliers, outstanding teams in the Piedmont area last year, have displayed an interest in the league.

The Rams, with Joseph Logan as business manager, operated independently here last year.

Attending the meeting Sunday will be Dick Desverney, Newport News; Isaac Burden, Portsmouth; Joseph Rose, Norfolk, Logan, and Major Mitchell of Washington.

## Protest Ban on Negro in Game

*The Daily Worker*  
 Special to the Daily Worker  
 Detroit, Oct. 15.—The decision of coach Lloyd Brazil of the University of Detroit to leave Guy Brown, Negro varsity footballer, at home for the Mississippi game which was played Saturday in Memphis has resulted in widespread protests in Michigan.

Despite the protests, however, Brazil's action was not reversed and Brown stayed home as his teammates travelled to Memphis for the inter-sectional game where they suffered their first defeat of the season at the hands of Mississippi, 4-6.

Brown had been in the lineup in both of Detroit's previous contests which had resulted in Detroit victories over Alma Scranton.

The protests to the University head, Father William J. Millor, came from progressive and trade union sources and are still pouring in.

One of the strongest letters came from the Michigan Civil Rights Federation. Signed by Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary of the Federation, the letter said in part:

"Dear Father Millor:  
 "We were both surprised and shocked upon learning from the news article which appeared one of the Detroit

that Coach Lloyd Brazil of the University of Detroit football team, intends to leave Guy Brown, who is a member of the varsity team, home, while the team plays a regularly scheduled game with a Mississippi team. We also understand that this move will be made solely because Guy Brown is a Negro. In making such a decision, Mr. Brazil indicates a willingness to accept a theory which the University of Detroit rejected when Guy Brown was allowed an opportunity to make the team through his athletic ability. It is difficult to believe that this action on the part of Coach Brazil reflects the policy of the administration of the University of Detroit.

"The practice of jim-crowism is a blot on American democracy. There is every hope for its elimination through the common struggle of the people in the South where it is more prevalent. However, when a northern university descends to that level, the hope for the eventual elimination of

back at Springfield High School before entering Cornell, has been shifted back to his old position by coach Ed McKeever. Paul, Jr., left school to join an CTC outfit in mid-September but was released recently.

When he reported for practice this week McKeever couldn't believe his eyes. "This young man is our best ball carrying back—make no mistake about that. He has speed to burn, is big and strong, and knows what to do with himself past the line of scrimmage.

Robeson is also a talented pass snatcher and his experience as an end last season only improved his ability in this line of play. Against the Old Blues Saturday he will probably share the blocking assignment, will do more than his portion of the running and will probably be on the receiving end of most of Al Dekdebrun's heaves downfield. 10-24-45

His return to action considerably strengthens the Big Red who have won three out of four contests, their only loss coming at the hands of Princeton last week. They face Columbia the week after next.

## Ohio U. Negro Back Helps Defeat Iowa

*The Daily Worker*  
 Columbus, Ohio.—Clyde Marshall, Negro halfback on the Ohio State Buckeye squad, played a stellar game against the Iowa University Hawks here Saturday, Oct. 6, in which the Buckeye reserves turned on the power to defeat the Iowans 42 to 0 in a powerful last period drive, which gives the Bucks their second straight victory of the 1945 season.

Marshall intercepted an Iowa pass on the Hawks' 48 and in three plays later scored from the 9-yard line, and a moment later received from Daugherty and ran 37 yards to the Hawks' 23, which paved the way for Daugherty, who skirted round right end, to score.

## Robeson Back At Cornell

*The Daily Worker*  
 New York, N.Y.—Paul Robeson, Jr., who received honorable mention on a number of All-American teams last year as a result of his end play for Cornell, has rejoined the Big Red eleven and will be in the lineup against Yale this Saturday.

**Colored All-Stars Play LeJeune**  
*The Daily Worker*  
 Atlanta, Ga.—One of the strongest colored teams in the nation, will meet the Atlanta All-Stars at Ponce de Leon at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. In facing the All-Stars, Camp LeJeune will be trying for its eighth win of the season against only one loss. The Atlanta team will be composed of former college stars from Atlanta universities. The All-Stars will be sparked by David T. (Roughhouse) Harper, former Clark College standout and Negro All-American fullback. The game is being staged under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Special seats will be reserved for white fans. 10-13-45



# Taliaferro Smothers Minnesota

**With 95-Yard Run  
And Three Scores  
In First Half**



MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—George Taliaferro, the great Negro halfback on the University of Indiana football squad, played a stellar game here Saturday in Memorial stadium when the Indiana Hoosiers defeated Coach Bierman's Minnesota Gophers 49 to 0, giving them the most decisive defeat they have received in many a year, before 45,000 fans.

Taliaferro made the first three Hoosier touchdowns; one in the first quarter and two in the second, after which Coach Bo McMillin removed him from the game. 11-16-45

Taliaferro started the Hoosiers going by taking the Minnesota kickoff on his one-yard line and galloping 95 yards to place the ball on the Gopher's four-yard stripe where he was tackled by a Gopher end.

On the next play Taliaferro fumbled a bad pass from center and Minnesota recovered, thus nullifying this spectacular scoring attempt. But a few plays later in the first quarter, Taliaferro took a lateral from Pihos, Hoosier fullback, and shot down field 27 yards to score the Hoosiers' first touchdown.

In the second quarter Taliaferro again took a pass from Pihos and side-stepped through the Gophers' secondary in a thrilling run to score. Armstrong's kick was good and the Hoosiers led 14 to 0. 11-16-45

Later in the second quarter Taliaferro intercepted a pass thrown by Lawrence, Gopher back, on his 15-yard line and he was off on a beautiful 85-yard run. Twisting, feinting, cutting and side-stepping, he galloped down field. Only one man, Lawrence, stood between him and the last stripe. Taliaferro changed his pace and feinted, cut to the side and galloped on to score his third touchdown of the game. Having done a good day's work before the first half, Taliaferro trotted off the field in response to the command of his coach, McMillin, as the fans roared their approval of this great player.

**LOW DOWN**  
N.Y., N.Y.  
**Indiana's Victory a  
Victory for Democracy**

By Nat Low  
Daily Worker

The Big Ten championship victory of B McMillan's Indiana Hoosiers, which came about as the result of the 26-0 drubbing of Purdue Saturday, was not only a victory for good football but for solid democracy, and it is high time all concerned in professional football and baseball took notice.

This magnificent Indiana outfit, unbeaten and tied once in ten games, is coached by a Southerner, has no less than nine Southern white players and three Negroes.

Indiana papers, which have been sent to us by a friend, have stressed the close and friendly cooperation of ALL the Indiana players, Negro and white. The great Negro stars, George Taliaferro and Mel Groomes, not only have not run into difficulties with the Southern men on the squad but have, indeed, made close friends with them.

Writers describing Indiana games have never once failed to mention the close coordination of the entire squad in its march to its first Big Ten title.

Of course, to readers of this paper and to most progressives, the above facts come as no surprise. We have been saying for years that Negro and white players can and do get along together. And keep in mind that compared to football, baseball is a sissy game.

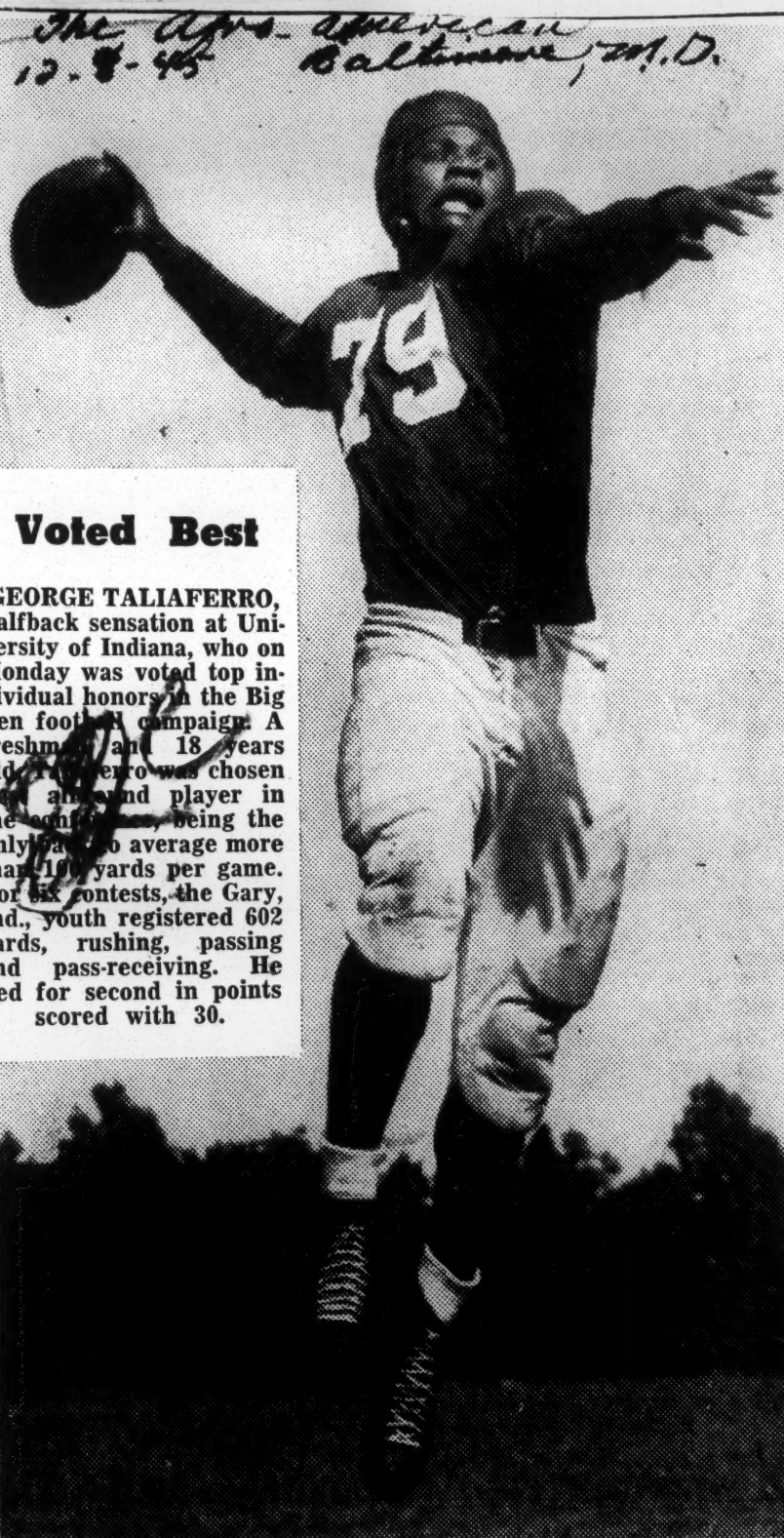
The victory of Indiana was a team victory, won by all the men on the squad. Had there been racial ill-feeling the Hoosiers could never have gone through their schedule unbeaten. 11-26-45

Branch Rickey knows this and that's one of the reasons he has signed Jackie Robinson. Larry MacPhail also knows this, but allows his rampant prejudices to blind his better sense. And most other baseball and football people know it, too. Steve Owen, coach of the football Giants, was in the press box of the Polo Grounds Thursday when the Tuskegee Warhawks were beating the New London Sea Raiders and seemed genuinely unhappy over the state of affairs in pro football which does not allow him to sign such men as Bert Piggott and Jerry Williams.

Only those who are stupid, blind or worse believe the fable of non-cooperation of Negro and white athletes—but the popular victory of Indiana will cheer all those who have been honest and intelligent enough to see that sports means democracy and democracy means full equality, regardless of the color of a man's skin. 11-26-45

Jackie Robinson, who made history when he signed a contract with the Montreal Royals, is getting a magnificent press. . . . The national magazines have now caught up with the story and the current issues of Life and Look magazines have splendid photo stories of the former UCLA four-letter athlete. Such articles will be of great aid in preparing a warm reception for Robinson when he trots out on the field at Daytona Beach next spring.

The Rangers fell back into the cellar Saturday night by absorbing a 4-3 beating at the hands of the Toronto Maple Leafs and will be there indefinitely until they can develop a scoring punch. . . . UCLA, which had its hand in the Rose Bowl pie, had its wrist slapped by California Saturday and as the result of a 6-0 defeat will probably lose the bowl bid. . . . CCNY won its opening basketball game Saturday by whipping Wagner 59-37 with Paul Schomones scoring 18 points and Len Hassman, 16. . . . Negro freshman Sonny Jameson accounted for five.



## Voted Best

**GEORGE TALIAFERRO**, halfback sensation at University of Indiana, who on Monday was voted top individual honors in the Big Ten football campaign. A freshman and 18 years old, Taliaferro was chosen best all-around player in the conference, being the only player to average more than 100 yards per game. For six contests, the Gary, Ind., youth registered 602 yards, rushing, passing and pass-receiving. He tied for second in points scored with 30.

**Taliaferro Gets  
The Journal and  
AP All-America  
Guide  
Third Team Spot**  
NEW YORK CITY —

George Taliaferro, freshman backfield star of Indiana University, was named third string quarterback on the Associated Press All-America team announced Tuesday mornin. The Gary, Indiana freshman, who is a graduate of

the Roosevelt High School in Gary, which is Negro-staffed and has a Negro coach, John Smith, was the sparkplug of the Indiana team which won the Big Ten championship this year. 12-15-45

Army dominated the first team listings on the AP All-America with Gleen Davis, Doc Blanchard, Green, Coulter and Nemetz placing on that team.



# Star Net Tourney Draws Line on Colored Players

Two Mall Club Racquetters Barred, but  
One Plays as South American Citizen

WASHINGTON  
How two capital tennis players received the run-around when they attempted to play in a city-wide tournament sponsored jointly by the Evening Star and D.C. Lawn Tennis Association was revealed this week.

The first, Richard Dempsey, who said that he was a South American, was permitted to play and was eliminated in the second round after making his real nationality known. The other, Dudley Woodard, had his entry accepted but was told by Austin Rice, tournament chairman, that he could not play because he did not have membership in the United States Lawn Tennis Association.

In an interview with the AFRC after his elimination Dempsey made it plain that he had no membership, either.

He said, "I made it very plain to all present that I was colored, that I had taken part and was accepted by all so what could the objection be to other members of my race participating?"

Rice, when questioned by the AFRO, explained that the tournament was being operated under the rules of the U.S.L.T.A. and that last year Maurice Jackson had to be turned down because of his race.

"This year," he continued, "Richard Dempsey told us that he was from South America, this was all right with them, so he took part. I suggest that you contact Hocum Ward, president of the U.S.L.T.A., and get his sanction if possible. We of the tournament committee have no objection."

Both boys are members of the Mall Tennis Club which plans to continue the fight.

The club also intends to find out whether the Rock Creek Courts come under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department. If this is true, they intend to see whether they can get the same type of ruling that led to the barriers being lifted on the public golf courses.

## What Color Tennis?

The D. C. Recreation Board has very recently forbidden white tennis players from playing on the three cement tennis courts at 26th and O sts. nw., the so-called Rose Park Courts. Until this action white and Negro tennis players have played on those courts for several years on a first come-first served basis, and the utmost harmony has prevailed.

As a white tennis player, I have been asked by Negroes, both those who play tennis and others, to sign petitions requesting the board to reconsider and reverse its action. I have been informed that Negroes in the Georgetown section are flatly opposed to the reservation of these courts for their exclusive use. They believe, and all the white players whom I know agree, that tennis courts in the Nation's Capital should not be operated on a Jim Crow basis.

It is certainly incongruous for tennis courts at 4th and Constitution ave. nw., among others operated under the supervision of the Department of the Interior, to be operated without discrimination—whites and Negroes alike play—while a few miles away Jim Crow prevails. The Department of the Interior has a policy of non discrimination in the courts operated by it. Everyone who plays seems perfectly happy about it. It would seem sensible for D. C. Recreation Board to bring its policy in line with that of the Nation.

STANLEY D. METZGER

Washington, July 16, 7-16-45

## Tennis

# Lincoln Airbase Corporal Thwarts Jimmy McDaniel Comeback Attempt

1944 Titlist Scores Straight-Set Triumph;  
Kathryn Irvis Captures Women's Crown

By SAM LACY  
AFRO Sports Editor

NEW YORK — Lloyd C. Scott, sturdy-limbed Lincoln (Neb.) Army Air Base corporal, captured the national singles tennis championship, his second in succession, here at the Cosmopolitan Club courts on Sunday afternoon.

Scott, unleashing a varied assortment of ground-scorching strokes and displaying a calmness which must have awed the gallery, hung up a straight-set victory over the previously undefeated national titleholder, Jimmy McDaniel, of Los Angeles, 7-5, 6-4, 8-6.

Undaunted by the fearsome reputation McDaniel had acquired during the years 1939-40-41, when Jimmy was sweeping everything before him, the colorless, but plugging, Scott took the upper hand at the seventh game of the first set.

## Breaks Tie

It was at this point that he broke his rival's service and shot out in front from a 3-3 tie. From there on, until McDaniel snatched



Jim McDaniel Mrs. VanBuren

a 3-1 lead in the third set, Scott was in control of the situation.

There is little doubt that Scott won because he had the better game for this event. He played right into the hands of McDaniel by matching baseline strokes with him, an art at which the wily Californian is considered a past master.

Despite this fact the airbase non-com lay back and traded long shots with Jimmy, invariably managing to return the latter's best shots and looming at the net for a kill at only the most unexpected moments.

## Tough Schedule

To reach the final round, McDaniel had to withstand a grueling nine-set Saturday program.

After pairing with his brother, Al, to defeat Douglas Henderson and Junkie Wood of Baltimore, 9-7, 6-4, 6-4, in men's doubles semi-finals, he competed in three sets of exhibition play before tackling his three-set singles semi-final with John Chandler of Fanwood, N.J.

Though showing unmistakable signs of fatigue, he beat down the ambitious Garden State entrant, 6-4, 8-6, 6-1, coming off a 5-2 disadvantage upon realizing the folly of trying to endure an extra set. Scott, virtually sweeping the aging Weir off the court, pushed his way into the finals on the tail of a 6-4, 9-7, 6-4 victory.

## Weir Blasted

Repeating his 1944 semi-finals score over the titleholder of two years ago, the air base soldier outdrove and outplaced the New Yorker at will, oftentimes passing his opponent with disconcerting ease.

Weir, obviously sensing the inevitable, made his most serious bid in the second set, when he refused to relinquish his service until Scott broke through in the fifteenth game after seven times deucing the count.

## Six-Year Dream

Kathryn J. Irvis of Pittsburgh realized a six-year dream in capturing the women's singles from



KATHRYN IRVIS

Lillian Van Buren of Detroit, 6-4,

2-6, 7-5.

Although the young Smoky Cityan had sought the honor many

times, it had always eluded her until last Sunday. Even then, she had to stage a brilliant rally to overcome a 5-2 lead held by her opponent in the deciding set.

Mrs. Van Buren, on the other hand, had her third straight disappointment, having bowed in

the 1942 finals to Flora Lomax of Texas, and losing to Roumania Peters in 1944. There was no 1943 tournament.

## New Stars Rise

Play for the women's title was marked by the unexpected rise of the 22-year-old recently married Pittsburgher and 18-year-old Nana Davis of Elizabeth, N.J.

Mrs. Irvis, a former mixed doubles titlist, climaxed a hectic tour through early rounds with a straight-set triumph over the defending champion, Roumania Peters, in the semi-finals. Her margin over the Tuskegee miss was 6-4, 6-4.

Previous to her defeat of the 1944 champion, Mrs. Irvis had overwhelmed Gwendolyn McDaniel of Los Angeles, seeded eighth, in the quarter-finals.

Miss Davis, who elected to try her lot in the women's division after taking a beating at the hands of Althea Gibson in last year's girls' title round, bowed in her semi-finals match with Mrs. Van Buren, 6-2, 6-3. The youthful Jerseyan had overrun fifth seeded Anna B. Showers of Brooklyn, 6-2, 6-4, to reach the semi-finals.

The third-ranking team of Scott and Louis Graves, the latter of New York, captured the men's doubles crown, defeating the McDaniel brothers, Jimmy and Al, in four sets, 1-6; 6-3; 7-5; 6-4.

The McDaniels brothers were propelled into the finals on a 9-7, 6-4, 6-4 victory over the Baltimore team of Douglas Henderson and Junkie Wood. Scott and Graves entered the championship round by turning back Nathaniel Jackson and Dr. Hubert Eaton of Wilmington, N.C., 6-1, 6-3, 6-3.

Margaret and Roumania Peters, the Tuskegee sister act, taking advantage of numerous errors by Ora Washington, defeated the team of Washington and Anita Gant, 6-4, 6-4, to garner their second consecutive women's doubles crown.

## Winners Steady

The steadiness of the Peters pair was too much for the shaky veterans, although Miss Gant exhibited a praiseworthy collection of forehand drives.

Franklin Bailey, the smooth young stroker from Orangeburg,



S.C., scored in the junior singles, registering a straight-set victory over Hilton Davis of Elizabeth, N.J., 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

A new champion assumed the throne among the boys when young Wilbert Davis, who learned his tennis on these same courts, took a hard-fought, three-set battle from Thomas Freeman of Washington, D.C., 6-2, 9-11, 6-4.

The veterans' singles crown went to a repeater when Dr. John B. Garrett of Tuskegee, Ala., took two deuced sets from Dr. Elwood Downing, 8-6, 8-6.

## 1945 National Tennis Champs at a Glance

NEW YORK—Herewith is a once-over glance at the 1945 national tennis champions, crowned at the annual American Tennis Association tournament last week:

Men's Singles — \*Cpl. Lloyd C. Scott, Lincoln Army Air Base, Neb.

Women's Singles — Kathryn Jones Irvis, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Junior Singles—Franklin Bailey, Orangeburg, S.C.

Boys' Singles—Wilbert Davis, New York City.

Girls' Singles—\*Althea Gibson, New York City.

Vets' Singles—\*Dr. J. B. Garrett, Tuskegee, Ala.

Men's Doubles—Lloyd Scott and Louis Graves, USCG.

Women's Doubles—\* Margaret and Roumania Peters, Tuskegee.

Mixed Doubles — \*Delbert Russell and Lillian Van Buren, Detroit.

Junior Doubles—Fred Wilson and Wilbert Davis, NYC.

\* Successfully defended 1944 titles.

### HARTFORD, CONN. COURANT

Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138

SEP 1 - 1945

## Twelve Clubs to Enter Negro Tennis Tourney

Twelve clubs are scheduled to participate in the New England Negro tennis closed championships opening today at Colt Park with the Nutmeg Club as host of the event. Dave Thompson of Hartford is seeded first and other local players to compete are Roland Harris, Sr., Howard Drew and Lester Wilson.

The tourney will continue through Monday.

The first match today is scheduled for one o'clock.

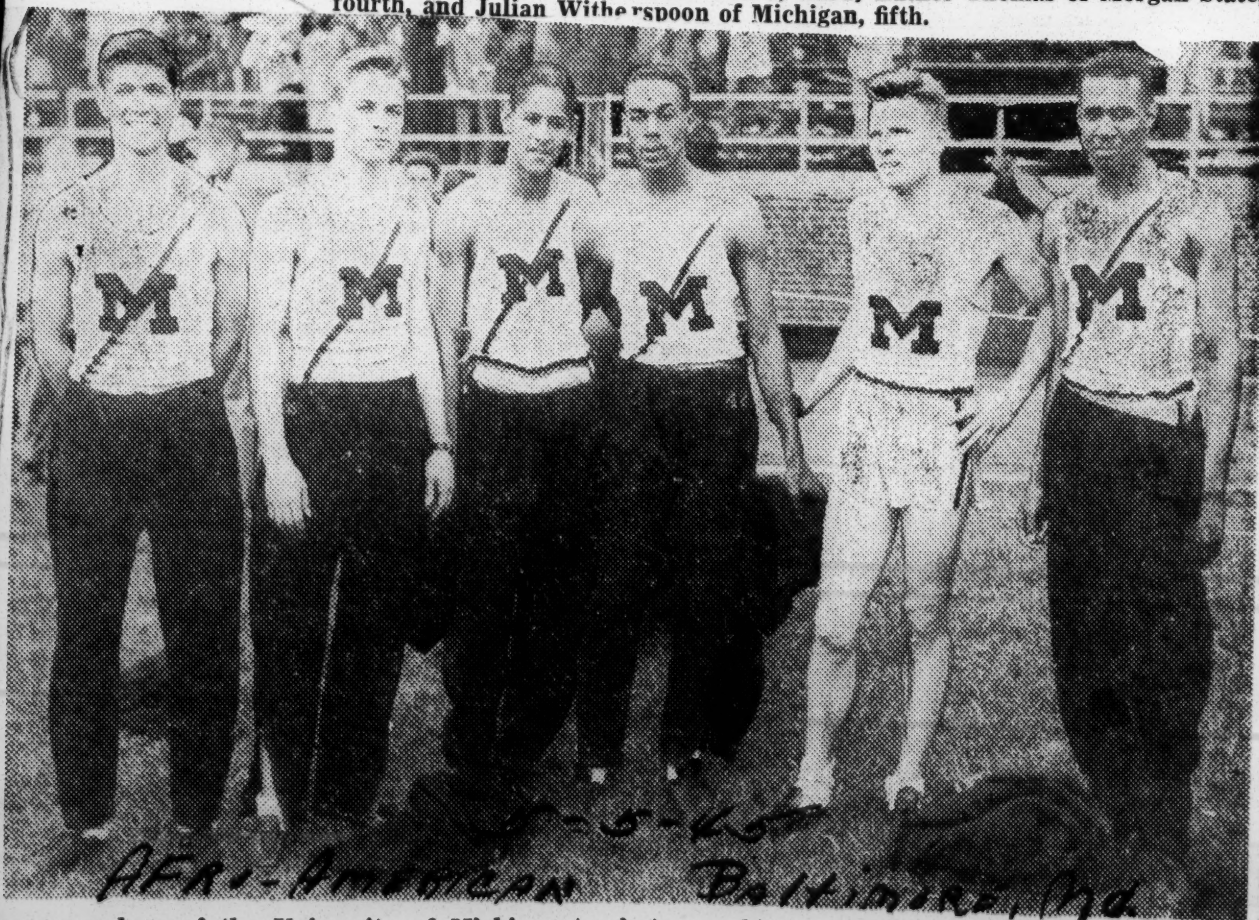




Breaking the jinx in his fifth attempt, Barney Ewell wins the Penn Relay 100-yard dash final on Saturday at Franklin Field, in an all-colored final. Reading, from left to right, Ewell, winner; Eulace Peacock of N.Y. Coast Guard, second; Herb Thompson of N.Y. Coast Guard, third; Luther Thomas of Morgan State, fourth, and Julian Witherspoon of Michigan, fifth.



**International good will is exhibited when Morris Wilson of Delaware State College, hurdler, pushed Haakan Lidman, sensational Swedish hurdler in the 120-yard high hurdles exhibition on Saturday. The two are shown after the race.**



Some members of the University of Michigan track team which won four championships during the Penn Relays on Saturday to equal the mark set by the University of Pittsburgh in 1939. In addition to the 2-mile, 4-mile and distance medley titles, the Wolverines copped the sprint medley crown. The three colored members are Julian Witherspoon, Robert Mann and Orval Johnson.

# Negro Athletes At Penn Relays

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — The two-month outdoor season was opened Friday and Saturday when the Pennsylvania Relay were held on Franklin Field in the presence of some 30,000 spectators.

Negro athletes were out in large numbers, although not as many participated in this year's event as in previous years because of the war. However, the service men who did participate cleaned up all the individual events.

Eulace Peacock, of the Coast Guard, took the broad jump for the fourth time in eleven years with a leap of 23 feet 9 3-8 inches, to dethrone Pfc. Henry M. Ewell, of Camp Kilmer, N. J., who was second with 23 feet 6 1-4 inches.

In the 100-yard invitation dash, Jewell won that event for the first time in five years to shade Eulace Peacock and Herb Thompson, both

of the Coast Guard, and Luther Thomas, of Morgan State College with 9.9 seconds. In the one-mile college relay events, Morgan State College triumphed over Franklin and Marshall, Virginia State and Hampton Institute, while Lincoln University triumphed over Wayne, Swathmore and Bloomsburg Teachers. In the class-D relay, Lincoln University won over New York University, Villanova and Morgan State.

In the high jump, there was a tie for fourth place between David Crawford, West Point; Paul Roberson, Jr., of Cornell; Wilbur Ross, of Morgan State, and Howard Jones, Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, with 5 feet 9 inches.

Cardoza High School of Washington, D. C., sent its classy team into the 16th high school mile relay and triumphed over Mount St. Michael and Brooklyn Automotive Trades.

New York's Morris High School

but this was not possible due to land. Most of their players have their league commitments. This had organized baseball experience. Their league commitments will be their last once and are capable of holding their own with the best independent Sunday date before they their own with the best independent. Their regular league campaign. The players all work in the Electric Boat plant in New London, Conn., turning out submarines for our government. Most of the players could top ranking teams in New England.

The New London nine have the year with the visitors losing, been coming down to Woodhaven two tough games both by 4-1 for the past few seasons and scores. President Max Rosner have always played the Bush- wanted to bring them back again.



sign organized baseball contracts immediately if they cared to leave their place of employment.



**ALL WINNERS**—Michigan's Hume twins, Ross (right) and Bob (second from right), repeat last year's dead heat triumph in the Big Ten mile run, finishing a stride ahead of Walter Fairservis,

also of Michigan. Right, Bob Kelley, Illinois great Negro star, captures the quarter-mile in the fast time of :48.4. Illinois surprised by winning the meet over Michigan, 65½ to 54 1/6.

Associated Press Wirephoto

**N.Y. TIMES 2-17-45**  
Barney Ewell, who will run in sixty-yard sprint







# Paul Ware Stars In Defender — Chicago, Ill. Annual Drake Relays

5-5-45

By CHARLES P. HOWARD  
DES MOINES, Ia.—(HNS)—A crowd, estimated at 10,000, saw the running of the fourth straight war-time and 36th annual Drake relays. The day was cool, not conducive to breaking running and jumping records, but the meet produced better performances in 11 major events than last year's, while nine were not so good as before.

Thirty-nine universities and colleges from 16 states, comprising 350 athletes, were on hand. This number was bolstered to 1,500 entries by the high school, junior high and grade school athletes. Nine of the athletes in the university and college sections were septa athletes. Included in the list were the sparkling Bob Kelley of the University of Illinois, also Charles Burghardt and George Walker of Illinois; Paul Ware and Henry Williams, of Drake university; Ike Johnson and George Moore, of the University of Iowa; Frazier Thompson of Notre Dame, and Sylvester Stewart of Miami university.

Yes, we lived long enough to see a Negro athlete wearing the colors of Notre Dame. We have seen about all the Drake relays since 1914, but we have never before seen one of our group in Notre Dame colors, neither has Fay Young, who has seen most of the Drake games, until last year when the Defender sent him to the Penn relays.

**THE OUTSTANDING** running athlete of the day turned out to be the chunky Paul Ware of Iowa City, Iowa, representing Drake university. Ware used to run for Prairie View State Teachers down in Texas, and he showed Big Ten, Big Six and Missouri Valley athletes his heels, just like he used to show the boys down South the way to the tape.

Ware, former Iowa inter-scholastic champion from Iowa City, burst into the limelight early in the meet when he appeared as Drake's entry in the invitational 440-yard dash, billed as the American championship. The starters, six in all, were staggered; Ware was in lane one, but when the back stretch was reached, it was clear that he was pulling away from the field. Once he'd tested out the pack and found them lacking, he went on to breeze in with some 10 yards to spare in 49.8 seconds.

Later in the day, Ware came back with the Drake distance medley relay team to help his team win that race in 10 minutes, 37 seconds. The distances were 440, 880, three-fourths and one mile. Ware put his team out in front when he took the baton with a one-step lead and passed it on to his teammate, Henry Williams, of Los Angeles, Calif. Williams,

running the three quarters mile stretched the five-yard lead given him by Ware into a sizeable 30-yard advantage. Watch this boy Williams. He's just turned 18 years and with a fine middle-distance stride.

**BOB KELLEY**, reported as a doubtful entry, when he was injured in practice last week, it looked like a pulled tendon, but he didn't seem to mind it a bit when he anchored Illinois' winning sprint medley relay team, 440, 220, 220, and 880. He finished his half-mile contribution to the Illinois victory with a comfortable 20-yard lead. The winning team's time was 3:36. Charles Burghardt of Greenfield, Ill., ran the second 220 in the race, passing the baton on to Kelley.

George Walker of Robbins, Ill., Big Ten indoor high and low hurdle champion from the University of Illinois, finished second in the 120-yard high hurdle race. Walker was leading down the stretch until he tipped the third to the last hurdle, was thrown off stride but recovered in time to salvage second place.

Burghardt of Illinois also qualified for the finals in the high hurdles but failed to place.

Frazier Thompson of Notre Dame was shut out in the special 100-yard dash in the preliminaries.

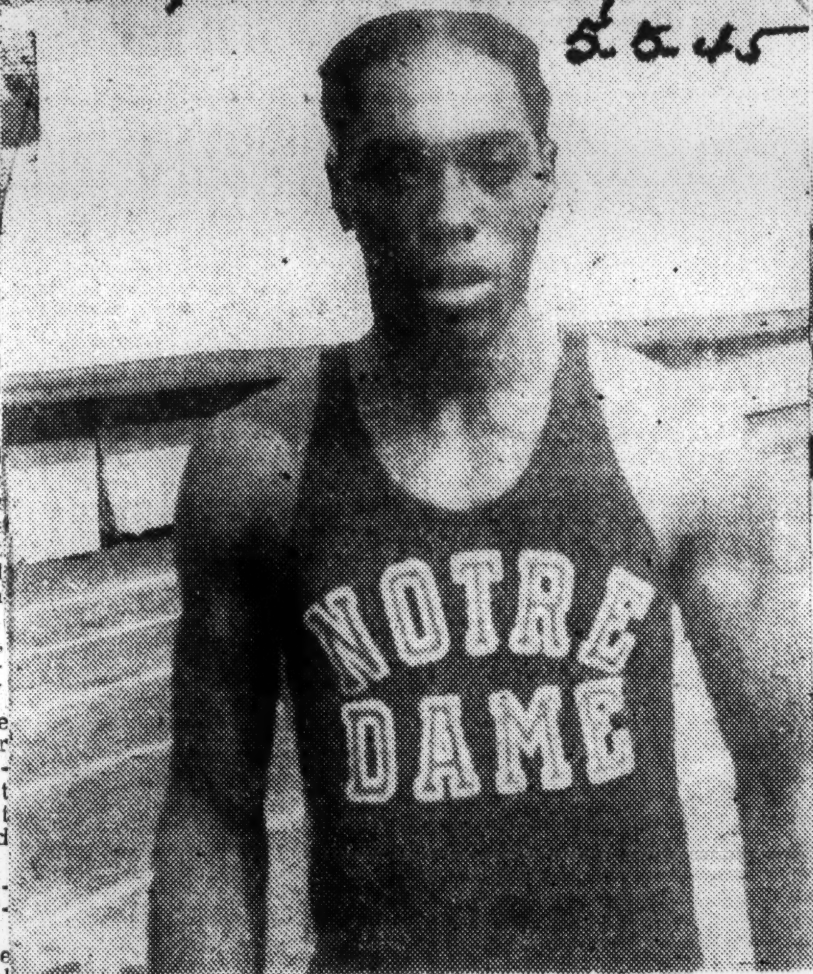
Sylvester Stewart of Toledo, Ohio, little iron man of Miami university, anchored to victory Miami college's half-mile relay team and its college sprint medley relay team.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA'S** Negro entries were George Moore of Omaha, Nebr., and Ike Johnson of Coffeyville, Kans. Moore finished fourth in the high jump after clearing 6 feet and he and Johnson ran on Iowa's sprint medley relay team which finished fifth. Johnson also ran on the University of Iowa two-mile relay team which finished fifth.

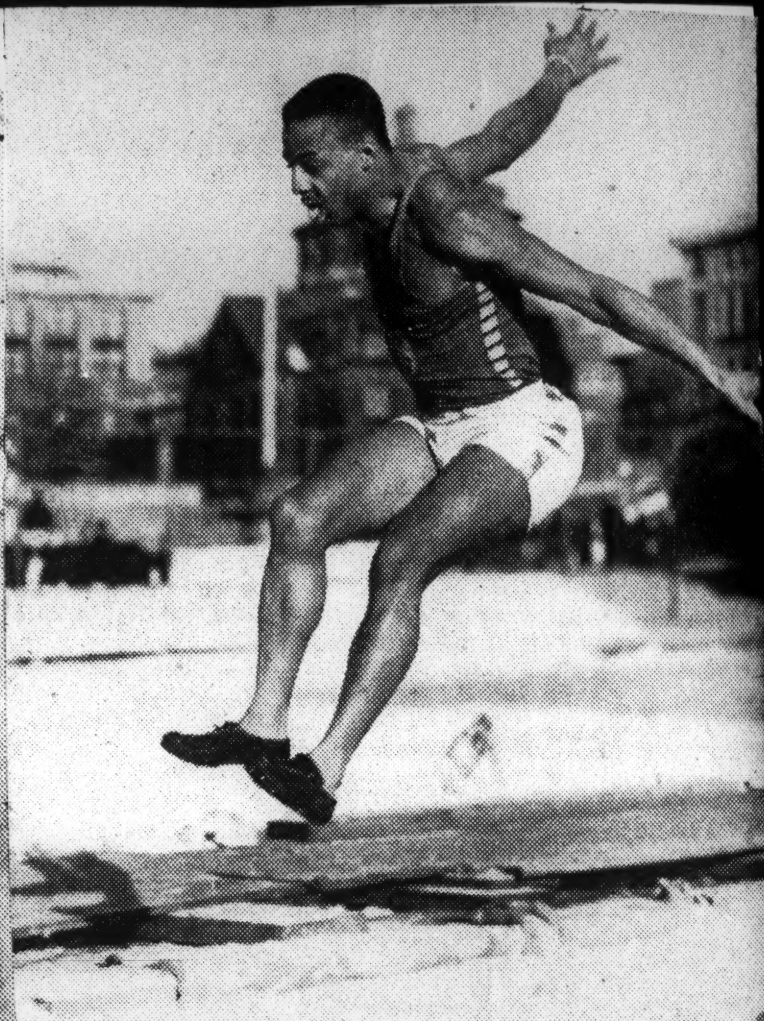
The best high school performance was turned in by Keith Brown, running anchor for Wilson High of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Brown ran the half-mile lap of the sprint medley race to give the Cedar Rapids team a new Drake relays record of 3 minutes, 47.6 seconds, knocking off 8-10th seconds off the old record.

For an annual track event the Drake relays has had its share of great septa stars—Howard Drew, Binga Dismond, Sol Butler, Eddie Tolan, Ralph Metcalfe, Jessie Owens, Barney Ewell, Buddie Young, and a host of lesser lights. Undoubtedly, to this list shall be added the names of Bob Kelley, Paul Ware and Henry Williams.

## RUNS FOR NOTRE DAME Defender — Chicago, Ill. 5-5-45



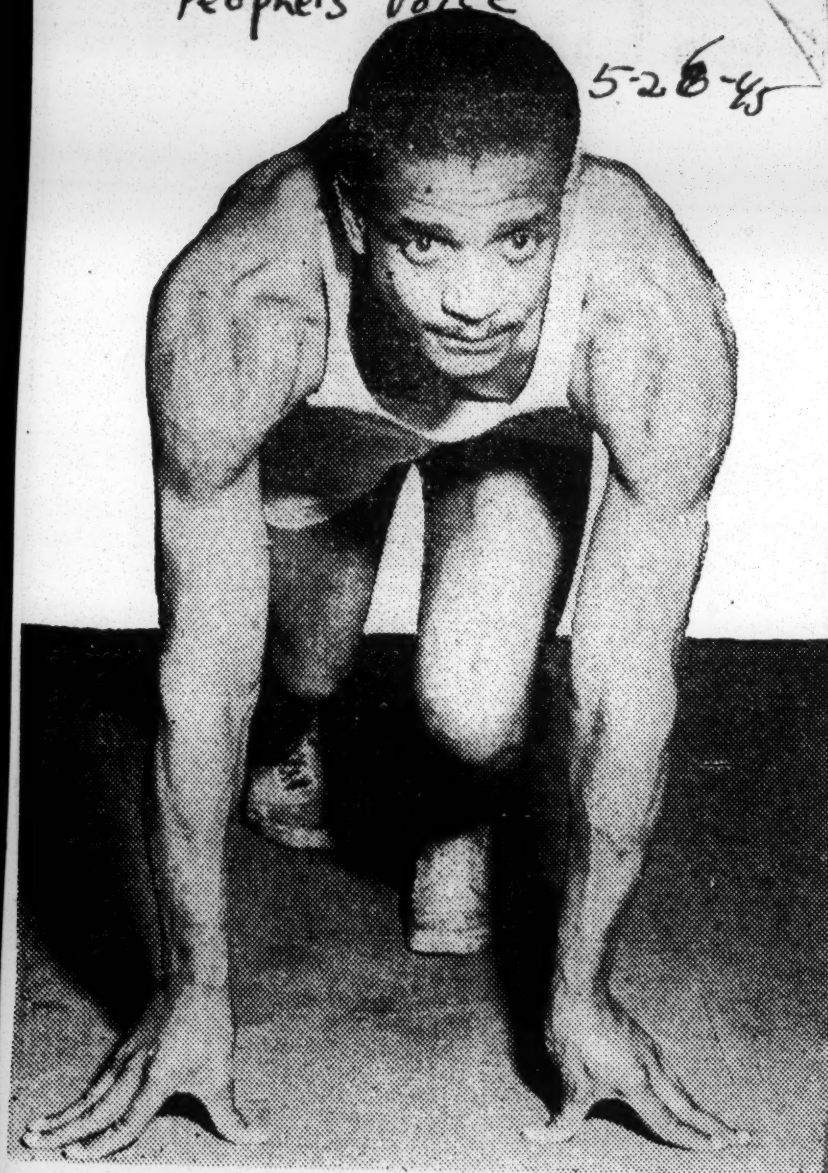
Frazier Leon Thompson, 19-year-old Navy trainee at Notre Dame university, South Bend, Ind., who ran in the American championship 100-yard dash in the 36th annual Drake relays in Des Moines, Iowa, on Saturday, April 28. He didn't qualify in his trial heat. Thompson's home is in Philadelphia. He is a V-12 pre-medic student having entered Notre Dame in July 1944. He is a graduate of the John Barta high, Philadelphia, and this is his first college experience. For the first time in the history of the great Catholic university, a Negro represented it in any branch of sport. Old timers who have watched track for 47 years can't name the time. Now they hope that this lad will pave way for some Negro star like Buddy Young, of Illinois, now in the Navy, or Paul Robeson Jr., at Cornell university, to play football at Notre Dame.—Photo by Charles P. Howard. Des Moines.



Homer Gillis, U. S. C. G., took the running broad jump



People's Voice



**1C-4A Mile Champion.** Rudy Simms the barrel chested mainstay of the NYU Violets' spiked shoe cinderpath brigade clinched the mile crown at West Point Saturday just as the form chart figured him to do. Although his time was a comparatively slow 4:29.4 it was enough to get to the wire first. When he was pressed in the stretch he had the reserve stamina to stand off the challenge of Navy's Walter Vincent Barry.

**Rudy Simms Winner In 1C-4A Mile Test**

Rudy Simms, was the lone Negro to cop a championship as the 1C-4A meet was run off at West Point Saturday. The speedy NYU distance man outlasted a stretch challenge by a Navy man to win the event and continue the succession of violet speeders at the classic distance.

**ENDS MICHIGAN 2 YEAR REIGN; WOLVERINES 2D**

**Champions' Walker Captures 3 Races**

## Track

## Table of Points

|                  |        |                 |     |
|------------------|--------|-----------------|-----|
| Illinois .....   | 65½    | Wisconsin ..... | 14½ |
| Michigan .....   | 54 1/6 | Indiana .....   | 6   |
| Minnesota .....  | 27½    | Northwestern .. | 0   |
| Ohio State ..... | 22     | Iowa .....      | 0   |
| Purdue .....     | 20½    | Chicago .....   | 0   |

BY WILFRID SMITH

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Champaign, Ill., May 26—Illinois' track men, still smarting from their one point licking by Michigan in the Western conference indoor track meet last March, gave their peak performance of the season this afternoon in Memorial stadium to whip the Wolverines in the 45th annual outdoor games. Illinois scored 65½ points in 12 of the 14 events to Michigan's 54 1/6.

More than 2,500 fans, a stridently partisan throng that cheered every Illinois athlete and all other opponents who helped cut down Michigan's scoring, saw what practically amounted to a dual meet. Minnesota's 27½ points, one of the minor surprises today, took third place, while Ohio State edged out Purdue, 22 to 20½ points, for fourth. Three universities—something of a record in itself—failed to score. They were Iowa, Chicago, and Northwestern.

## First Outdoor Title Since '34

Illinois' deserved triumph, in which 14 men shared, was its first outdoor track title since 1934. In this period Michigan had won seven championships, including the 1943 and 1944 titles. The Illini obtained 21 scoring places out of a maximum of 70 and while Michigan got 18, Illinois raced to victory primarily by virtue of seven individual championships and runner-up positions in two others. Illinois also was second in the mile relay which Michigan won.

The Wolverines captured only two individual championships, the mile and two mile runs, and altho they dominated the middle distance point scoring they were shut out in five other events.

Four men registered Illinois' seven titles, with the victory fashioned around the superlative work of Bob Kelley and George Walker. Kelley successfully defended his 1944 titles in the 440 yard sprint and half mile. He covered the former distance in 48 4/10 seconds, only three-tenths of a second slower than his mark last spring.

## Walker Takes Three Races

Walker won the 100 yard dash and both hurdle races and his time of :23.4 for the 220 yard low hurdles was one of the best exhibitions of the midwestern season. Henry Aihara, freshman from Winnetka, Ill., won the broad jump and tied for fourth in the high jump. Marce Gonzalez of Gary, Ind., one of the finest competitors ever to represent Illinois, won the 220 yard dash. Stan Sprague was second in the shotput and Bob Phelps was second in the

pole vault behind Capt. John Schmidt of Ohio State. Phelps' four points; Bill Buster's third place in the 100 yard dash and fourth place in the 220 yard sprint, and Kelley's double triumphs explains to a large degree how Illinois won from Michigan. Phelps made his first appearance since he was injured in the Purdue relays last March, one night after he had set a 13 foot 11 inch record in the Cleveland K. of C. games. Buster ran his first race since suffering a pulled muscle at the Drake relays.

## Warm Weather Aids Kelley

Kelley, who had been held out of the quarter mile all season because of a mid-April injury in training, proved he was ready to run. Warm weather was a contributing factor but his :48.4 in the quarter mile is evidence, not to mention a subsequent mark of 1:55.5 in the half mile.

On the other side of this comparison, Michigan lost Julian Witherspoon, its premier sprinter, in the morning qualifying 220 yard race. Witherspoon pulled a muscle—he previously had qualified in the 100 yards and was scratched. Charles Lauritsen, Michigan pole vaulter, got third in this despite an injury two weeks ago, a mishap which Michigan had not broadcast. Finally, Ross Willard, Michigan two miler, did not make the trip.

Michigan got 32 of its points in the mile, half mile, and two miles but this group of runners, headed by Ross and Bob Hume and Charles Birdsall, had inadequate support. Almost from the time Kelley marked up Illinois' first championship it was apparent the Illini would whip Michigan and the dressing room celebration two hours later merely ratified the triumph.

## Humes Divide One Mile

Ross and Bobby Hume continued Michigan's domination of the conference mile when they ran a dead heat in the opening track event. Walter Fairservis, also of Michigan, apparently could have been included in the deadlock for the championship but the judges decided he was a few inches behind the Humes. Bob Thomason took fourth place for Michigan, while John Mitchem of Indiana got the last scoring place.

Ross Hume and Birdsall attempted to run a dead heat in the two miles but keen eyed officials decided that Birdsall was the winner. Ross was defending champion.

Walker's outstanding feat was his high hurdle victory 15 minutes after he had won the 100 yards in 9.9-10 seconds. Then he had ample time to rest before his low hurdle test.

## Dugger Takes Discus

Jack Dugger of Ohio State won the discus throw easily and then

added a third place in the shot put, which was taken by George Fuch of Wisconsin. Dick Kilpatrick of Purdue won the high jump as had been expected. All other individuals titles went to Michigan or Illinois. Summaries:

**DISCUS THROW**—Won by Dugger, Ohio State, 147 feet 5 inches; Hayes, Indiana, second, 131 feet 6¼ inches; Blom, Illinois, third, 129 feet 2½ inches; McWilliams, Ohio State, fourth, 128 feet 1 inch; Agase, Illinois, fifth, 124 feet 2¼ inches.

**SHOTPUT**—Won by Fuch, Wisconsin, 46 feet; Sprague, Illinois, second, 45 feet 3 inches; Dugger, Ohio State, third, 45 feet 2¼ inches; Slagle, Ohio State, fourth, 44 feet 6 inches; Hayes, Indiana, fifth, 44 feet 4¾ inches.

**HIGH JUMP**—Won by Kilpatrick, Purdue, 6 ft. 2 7-8 inches; Kilen, Minnesota, and McNab, Michigan, tied for second, 6 ft. 1 in.; Aihara, Illinois, and Miller, Purdue, tied for fourth, 6 ft.

**220 YARDS**—Won by Gonzalez, Illinois; Dimancheff, Purdue, second; Harvey, Purdue, third; Buster, Illinois, fourth; Johnson, Michigan, fifth. Time, :21.9.

**BROAD JUMP**—Won by Aihara, Illinois, 23 feet 4 3-4 inches; Tharp, Minnesota, second, 23 feet 3 1-2 inches; Yamamoto, Minnesota, third, 22 feet 8 1-4 inches; Brownstein, Minnesota, fourth, 21 feet 11 7-8 inches; Dimancheff, Purdue, fifth, 21 feet 4 1-2 inches.

**MILE**—Won by Ross and Bob Hume, Michigan; Fairservis, Michigan, third; Thomason, Michigan, fourth; Mitchem, Indiana, fifth. Time, 4:26.7.

**440 YARD DASH**—Won by Kelley, Illinois; Forrester, Michigan, second; Shepherd, Michigan, third; Gonzalez, Illinois, fourth; Hayes, Illinois, fifth. Time, :48.4.

**100 YARD DASH**—Won by Walker, Illinois; Brownstein, Minnesota, second; Buster, Illinois, third; Harvey, Purdue, fourth; Zimmerman, Illinois, fifth. Time, :09.9.

**120 YARD HIGH HURDLES**—Won by Walker, Illinois; Cranston, Minnesota, second; Jackson, Ohio State, third; Burghardt, Illinois, fourth; Seibert, Ohio State, fifth. Time, :15.

**HALF MILE**—Won by Kelley, Illinois; Fairservis, Michigan, second; Parsons, Michigan, third; Robert Hume, Michigan, fourth; Swartzendruber, Illinois, fifth. Time, 1:55.5.

**TWO MILES**—Won by Birdsall, Michigan; Ross Hume, Michigan, second; Lawson, Wisconsin, third; Webster, Wisconsin, fourth; Davis, Purdue, fifth. Time, 3:50.2.

**POLE VAULT**—Won by Schmidt, Ohio State, 13 feet 4 inches; Phelps, Illinois, second, 13 feet; Lauritsen, Michigan, third, 12 feet 8 inches; Kelly, Wisconsin, fourth, 12 feet; Bentz and Scheer, Michigan, and Levine, Wisconsin, tied for fifth, 11 feet 6 inches.

**220 YARD LOW HURDLES**—Won by Walker, Illinois; Tharp, Minnesota, second; Cranston, Minnesota, third; Dykema, Michigan, fourth; Burghardt, Illinois, fifth. Time, :23.4.

**MILE RELAY**—Won by Michigan (Mann, McConnell, Shepard, Forestall); Illinois, second; Purdue, third; Wisconsin, fourth; Ohio State, fifth. Time, 3:22.1.

**NILES, MICH. STAR**

Cir. D. 3,281

**MAY 26 1945**

**Irish Present Monogram to 1st Colored Athlete**

By finishing second in both the 100 and 220 yard dashes against Illinois last Saturday, Frazier Thompson, Notre Dame negro sprinter, captured himself of enough points to win a monogram, and thus will become the first letter winner of his race in the history of the school.

Thompson, a 19 year old Navy V12 trainee, is a graduate of John Bartram High School, in his native Philadelphia. He is an honor student in the pre-med school.



DETROIT, MICH.

FREE PRESS

Circ. D. 322,683 — S. 301,788

MAY 27 1945

# As of TODAY

## Big Ten's Greatest Cinder Record Belongs to Owens

By Lyall Smith



CHAMPAIGN.

IT'S NO PUN to say that track meets run together in a fellow's memory. Athletes swing out onto the cinder paths, run like a man possessed, then flop down on the green grass and rest.

Somebody generally drops a baton in a relay race, a favorite is beaten, some astute coach with a penchant for mathematics picks the exact number of points to be scored by the winning team even before the meet is held. There's a regular pattern into which all items neatly fit. Almost all items, that is.

Like the day 10 years ago. The occasion was the thirty-fifth Big Ten track and field meet, at Ferry Field, Ann Arbor. The date was May 25, 1935.

## Jesse Makes Track History

MUCH HAD BEEN heard of the track prowess of a slender, supple Negro who had enrolled at Ohio State after a sensational high school career at Cleveland's East Tech. His name was Jesse Owens; he was a sophomore now and competing in his first Western Conference meet.

There wasn't a large crowd in the bleachers, but every person on hand will never forget the afternoon. For Owens, the kid with the right to be called the first exponent of "flowing power," turned everything topsy-turvy to write his name into the record books for the greatest single performance in all Big Ten history.

He ran the 100-yard dash. No, he didn't run it. He flew the 100-yard dash. When the astonished timers checked their watches, they found he had turned in a time of :09.4, the fastest in all conference history. That tied the world's record and he was given a nice burst of appreciative applause when the feat was announced.

Then came the 220-yard dash. Jesse flew again to break his second tape for the day. This time the men with the stop watches gathered together in amazement. They checked and double checked. The time was right—:20.3 for a world's record. And this time the fans really roared. Two events—one world's record, another one tied.

OWENS WAS ENTERED in the 220-yard low hurdles. His long muscular legs flicked like scissors over the boards as he swept down the track to finish first again. His time was :22.6

and the spectators gasped in amazement, for that was another world's record.

He had one more chance that day. That was in the broad jump. He walked down to the pit and dropped a handkerchief at the 26-foot mark. There were a few grins here and there in the infield. For no man had ever even jumped 25 feet.

Owens went back to the head of the jumping lane. He started to run. By the time he hit the back edge of the pit and the take-off board he was ready to soar. He did. With effortless grace he sailed to another world's record. When he hit the sand his handkerchief was behind him. His mark was 26 feet eight and one-fourth inches, and that was enough. He took but one jump that day: That was all he required.

So Owens had competed in four events. He tied one world's record and broke three others. That was 10 years ago on May 25, 1935. His name is still in the record books. Jesse Owens, Ohio State, world's record in the broad jump, 220-yard dash and 220-yard low hurdles.

DETROIT, MICH.

FREE PRESS

Circ. D. 322,683 — S. 301,788

MAY 27 1945

## 2 Sprinters Spark Upset with 5 Firsts

Walker and Kelley Build 11-Point Edge

BY LYALL SMITH

Free Press Sports Editor

CHAMPAIGN — A string of first places . . . 7 in 14 events . . . swept Illinois to its 13th Big Ten track and field title in an upset victory over the defending champions from the University of Michigan. The score was 65½ to 54 1/6.

The day was hot, sultry and apparently made to order for Freshman George Walker and Veteran Bob Kelley of the Illini. This pair of Negro sprinters ran up 25 points with Walker winning three events and Kelley two.

The Wolverines were after their 21st title, but were shunted aside by the spree of individual honors won by the same team they nosed out for the indoor title last spring. Only in the mile run where Ross and Bob Hume tied for first and in the two-mile where Charley Birdsall nosed out Ross Hume to be the winner did they capture first places.

OTHER TEAMS trailed in this order: Minnesota, 27½; Ohio State, 22; Purdue, 20½; Wisconsin, 14½, and Indiana six. Chicago, Iowa and Northwestern did not score.

Prize package of the meet was Walker, from Blue Island, Ill., who is in his first year of track competition. His winning mark of :23.4 in the low hurdles was the top competitive mark of the day.

MICHIGAN WENT scoreless in the shot put and discus throw—while the Illini jumped away to an eight-point lead. But in the mile run, the famed Hume twins—Ross and Bob—turned in their favorite act to tie for the title in 4:26.7. And give the Wolverines their first points.

Walter Fairservis and Bob Thomason, also of Michigan, finished third and fourth respectively.

The Illini then turned on the steam in the next three events to regain the lead with first places in the sprints and low hurdles.

LEADING THE DRIVE was the Brilliant Walker who won the century and then came back 15 minutes later to repeat in the low hurdles. Added to Kelley's triumph in the 440-yard dash, the surge put Illinois ahead after six events with 32 points to 21 for Michigan.

Kelley came back in the half-mile to win his second victory with a down-the-stretch-drive. Fred Swartzenbruber of Illinois set the pace and drew out Michigan's runners to open the road for Kelley. However, the Wolverine's Bob Hume, Parsons and Fairservis were in the next three places.

That meant six more points for Illinois and nine for Michigan to pull the Illini total to 38 to 30 for Michigan.

The parade of Illini winners con-

tinued in the 220-yard dash when Marc Gonzalez won in :21.9 and Bill Buster, his team-mate, finished fourth. Michigan's Orval Johnson was fifth and Illinois increased its lead to 13 points.

HENRY AIHARA leaped to a victory in the broad jump to become the sixth Illinois man to win his event. Michigan again went scoreless and the gap between the two contenders began to expand.

Michigan finally broke into the point column again in the two-mile where the judges ruled that Birdsall nosed out his running mate, Ross Hume, although the pair tried to hit the tape at the same time.

In the last event, the mile relay, the brilliant Kelley ran the second lap for Illinois and made up a five-yard deficit to give Illinois a half-way lead but Michigan made it up and the Wolverines won with Illinois second.

### FINALS

Discus—Won by Dugger (OSU); Hayes (Ind.), second; Blom (Ill.), third; McWilliams (OSU), fourth; Agase (Ill.), fifth. Distance—147 ft. 5 inches.

SHOT PUT—Won by Fuch (W), second Sprague (Ill.), third Dugger (OSU), fourth Slagle (OSU), fifth Hayes (Ind.). Distance—46 feet.

MILE RUN—Bob and Ross Hume (Mich.), tied for first; third Fairservis (Mich.), fourth Thomason (Mich.), fifth Mitchem (Ind.). Time—4:26.7.

440-YARD DASH—Won by Kelley (Ill.); second, Forrester (Mich.); third, Shepherd (Mich.); fourth, Gonzalez (Ill.); fifth, Hayes (Ill.). Time—:48.4.

100-YARD DASH—Won by Walker (Ill.), Brownstein (Minn.) second, Buster (Ill.) third, Harvey (P) fourth, Zimmerman (Ill.) fifth. Time—:09.9.

120-YARD HIGH HURDLES—Won by Walker (Ill.); Cranston (Minn.), second; Jackson (OSU), third; Burghardt (Ill.), fourth; Seibert (OSU), fifth. Time—:15.

880-YARD RUN—Won by Kelley (Ill.); Fairservis (Mich.), second; Parsons (Mich.), third; Bob Hume (Mich.), fourth; Swartzenbruber (Ill.), fifth. Time—1:55.5.

220-YARD DASH—Won by Gonzalez (Ill.), Dimancheff (P) second, Harvey (P) third, Buster (Ill.), fourth; Johnson (Mich.), fifth. Time—:21.9.

BROAD JUMP—Won by Aihara (Ill.); Sharp (Minn.), second; Yamamoto (Minn.) third, Brownstein (Minn.) fourth, Dimancheff (P) fifth. Distance—23 feet 4 3/4 inches.

HIGH JUMP—Won by Kilpatrick (P), McNabe (Mich.) and Killen (Minn.) tied for second, Aihara (Ill.) and Miller (P) tied for fifth. Height—6 feet 2 3/4 inches.

MILE RELAY—Won by Michigan (Mann, McConnell, Shepherd, Forestal), Illinois second, Purdue third, Wisconsin fourth, Ohio State fifth. Time—3:22.1.

TWO-MILE RUN—Won by Birdsall, (Mich.), Ross Hume (Mich.) second, Lawson (W) third, Webster (W) fourth, Davis (P) fifth. Time—9:50.2.

POLE VVAULT—Won by Schmidt (OSU), Phelps (Ill) second, Lauritsen (Mich) third, Kelly (W) fourth, Scheer (Mich), Bentz (Mich) and Levine (W) tied for fifth. Height—13 feet 4 inches.

220-YARD LOW HURDLES—Won by Walker (Ill), Sharp (Minn) second, Cranston (Minn) third, Dykema (Mich) fourth, Burghardt (Ill) fifth. Time—:23.4.



# PHILADELPHIA COURIER SPORTS

## Eulace Peacock, Owens' Conqueror, Still Rollin'

By DON DE LEIGHBUR

NEW YORK—They come no finer than quiet, unassuming Eulace Peacock, Alabama-born conqueror of the "world's fastest human," the incomparable Jesse Owens. When the last period is inscribed on the story of the Negro on the cinder paths, the name, Eulace Peacock, will be there right at the top, maybe on top, because this former Temple University all-round athlete has knitted together one of the greatest careers in amateur sports; one that has the inspiration of a Frank Merriwell story and, at the same time the hopes, ambitions, and aspirations of the traditional rags-to-riches fable.

Eulace Peacock now is instructor in the Physical Education Department of the U. S. Coast Guard, stationed at Manhattan Beach, N. Y. From 1930 to 1945 is 15 years and that is the period in which Eulace Peacock has been a factor in American indoor and outdoor track meets. He expects to compete in 1946, also, and the year after that. A Peacock never quits. Before going back to the beginning and tracing the Peacock story through the years, it is of interest to record here and now the fact that Eulace Peacock achieved the undying distinction of defeating Jesse Owens in both the 100 yard dash and the broad jump when the Cleveland flash was at his peak. This was in the 1935 AAU National Championships at Lincoln, Nebraska, and climaxed two years (1935-36) of rivalry, of the most intense variety, between these two sterling performers.

Born at Gotham, Alabama, Aug. 27, 1914, the Peacock family brought Eulace to East Orange, New Jersey, as a baby and, at 8, Eulace was taken to Union City, New Jersey, where he, in later years, attended Union High. While in high school, his career paralleled that of Jesse Owens', then attended East Tech High in Cleveland. Jesse is also a native of Alabama. The two frequently duelled on tracks all over the country, and carried on a time and distance rivalry on separate fields when neither had heard of the other. Owens went on ahead to achieve international fame at the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936, a gap which Peacock couldn't bridge. However, according to many highly regarded commentators and critics, "an analytical study of their records marks Temple's star (Eulace Peacock) a better man."

Peacock started breaking records as a freshman at Union High doing over 20 feet in the broad jump, improving that by one foot in the following year; and running the 100 in 10.4. In his junior year he jumped 22 feet and ran the 100 in 10.2. As a senior, he won national recognition in his senior year at Union, negotiating the century in 9.8. At the same time he was doing well over 24 feet in the broad jump. Meanwhile, at Cleveland, Jesse Owens had started his spectacular assault on inter-scholastic records.

Peacock, in the spring of 1933,



EULACE PEACOCK

6-2-45  
competing in a track meet at Princeton, N. J., broke the world's interscholastic broad jump with a 24 feet 3 1-2 inch leap, but the mark lived only an hour after its announcement because, by telegraph from the midwest, came word that Jesse Owens had jumped 24 feet 3 3-4 inches. The midwest was on Central Standard Time, and the performances presumably were just an hour apart. That year both Peacock and Owens stated their

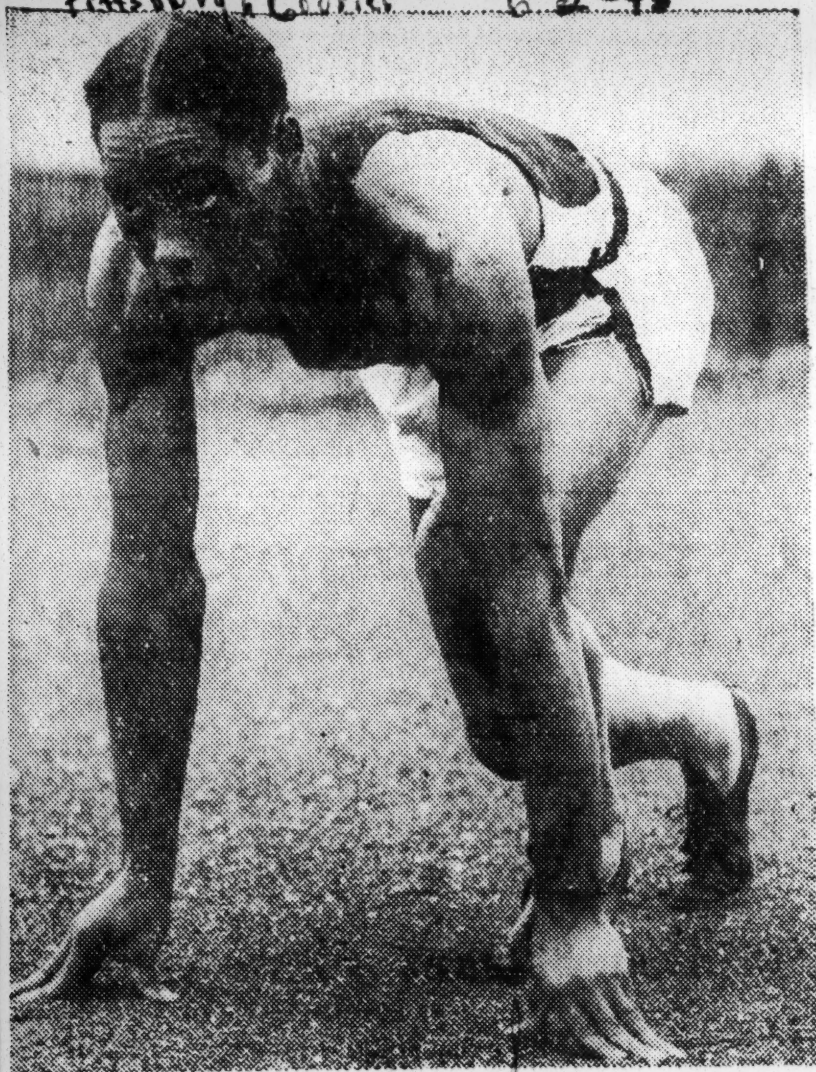
colligate careers—Eulace at Temple, Owens at Ohio State, Columbus, Ohio. Now at Union High, Peacock had captained both the track and football teams and had won top AAU Honors. He was considered as one of the greatest pep backs in the history of New Jersey High School Football; he had won a rating as all-state half-back and was a star in basketball at forward and at center. His broad jumping activity at Union was climaxed with a 24 foot 4 1-2 inch effort to set a new state record.

"I'll be frank about it," Peacock told me. "It was Miss Grace Durling, who is white and who was the principal at Union, who kept prodding me on as a track man. She made me train and saw to it that I kept up my scholastic work. When I was ready for college, it was she who suggested Temple University, her alma mater, telling me that I would be carrying on the Peacock tradition since my older brother, Jimmy, was captain of the track team there. Jimmy, my high school coach, Harry Lake, and my coach at Temple, Ben Ogden, were among those who taught me how to win. Incidentally, I never ran against my brother. I just couldn't do that. No. Not even in fun. I revered the guy. I guess."

Peacock entered Temple in September. In the spring he participated in track as a freshman. The record shows that later in the same season after Peacock had set the New Jersey State record of 24 feet 4 1-2 inches in the broad jump, Jesse Owens did the same thing, leaping 24 feet 9 inches to surpass the Peacock effort. This was only two hours after Eulace thought he was safe as a champion. However, in 1933, Peacock became National Pentathlon champion, capturing two of five events at the Penn Relays—the broad jump and the 200 meter dash. Peacock, in 1934, again won the AAU Pentathlon Championship, and that was the year he was a member of the American Track Team which had Daniel J. Ferris, secretary of the National AAU, as manager, and which included Ben Eastman, Percy Beard, Jack Torrence, Glenn Hardin, Cornelius Johnson, Bob Benthron, and Bob Kline. On that trip, Peacock and Johnson, incidentally the only Negroes, were treated with every courtesy and friendly gesture. The tour abroad included Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland and France. The touring Americans

were welcomed in various towns, giving banquets, and feted, and taken on tours of the historical places.

6-2-45  
(The second and concluding installment on this remarkable story of Eulace Peacock and Jesse Owens will appear in this space next week.)



FIRST AT NOTRE DAME—Frazier Thompson, who is the first Negro to compete in athletics at Notre Dame. He is a Navy V-12 trainee, and is a sprinter. Thompson is 19 years old and formerly attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He hails from Philadelphia and is a graduate of Bartram High School.



# Barney Ewell Paces Sepia Thinclads In AAU Meet

By HASKELL COHEN 7-7-45

NEW YORK—After an absence of one year, Negro trackmen cleaned up in the National AAU Track Meet Friday and Saturday afternoons at barren Randall's Island. Including Herb Douglas, Pittsburgh Courier protege, sepia runners captured all sprint and middle distance honors. Young Douglas took the broad jump with a leap of 24 ft. 1/8 in.

Barney Ewell came through with the 100-yard sprint title when he whipped Perry Samuels, Texas flash, by three yards in the Saturday final. On Friday, Samuels was crowned junior AAU titleholder when he beat Nedd and Mathis to the tape.

Elmore Shore, dethroned in the 200-meter hurdles and 400-meter run, showed his versatility by coming back to win the 200-meter dash. Barney Ewell, a finalist, scratched at the last moment, preferring to concentrate on the broad jump, where he finished fifth.

Herb McKenley, the Boston College flash, whizzed around the 400-meter dash in 48.4, knocking off El Shore, defending champ, in addition to Johnny Taylor, who won the junior title on Friday. Bob Kelly, the Illinois U. half miler, retained his 800-meter title when he breasted the tape in 1:54.1.

Dave Albritton, together with Josh Williamson, finished in a tie for first place in the high jump with leaps of 6 ft. 5 3/4 inches. They were tied by Dick Schnack and Les Howe.

Others to cop championships, the list of which includes a clean sweep of the running events up to the 800-meters, were:

(1) Cpl. Norwood (Barney) Ewell, Camp Kilmer, N.J., winner of the 100-yard dash in the dazzling time of 10.3 seconds;  
(2) Elmore (Pepper) Harris, former Morgan State College star, first in the 200-meter dash in 21.9 seconds.

(3) Herb McKenley, crack Boston College middle-distance performer, victor in the 400-meter dash in 48.4 seconds.

(4) Bob Kelley, University of Illinois track captain, first in the 800-meter event in 1:54.1;

(5) Herb Douglass of Pittsburgh, Pa., winner of the broad jump with a leap of 24 feet, 1/8 inch.

(6) Pvt. Hubert Gates of Warinanco A.C. (New Jersey), who scored in the junior 400-

Other runners-up were Stan Callender, N.Y. Pioneer Club, in the 800; Henry Walsh, Pioneer Club, in the 5,000; Don Barksdale, Camp Ross, Cal., in hop-step-jump; Pvt. Hubert Gates, in 400-meter (senior) hurdles; Eulace Peacock, USCG, in broad jump; Wilbur Ross, Morgan State College, in junior 400-meter hurdles; Rudy Nedd, junior 100, and Herb Douglass, junior broad jump.

Most spectacular, if not the most exciting, race of the two days was the 100-meter dash in which the old reliable Ewell, keyed to the minute, chalked up the record-equalling time of 10.3 seconds.

Usually a slow breaker, Barney was off his blocks like a human comet. It would be gross misrepresentation to say that anyone was on his heels, for Ewell streaked the distance with such terrific

ed. But McKenley, in a rare display of gameness, permitted Herbert to get to his elbow but no further. The pair burst into the finish line mere inches apart.

## 200-Meter Duel

Another thrilling duel occurred in the 200-meter finals. Harris, somewhat dull at the break, was in third position as the field settled into its stride. Accustomed to going to the front immediately in all his races, the former Morgan scintillant was forced to overtake

Biggest disappointment of the meet, perhaps, was the showing of NYU's Rudy Simms, who after running a smart race in the 1,500 meters, faded to finish fifth behind white Roland Sink, Harvard.

Ewell, who had figured to place in the 200, after his brilliant effort in the 100, scratched from this event. He had previously won his heat in the longer race in 22.5, beating Crowson, who came so close to upsetting Harris.



## Colored Athletes Cop 7 Championships in National AAU Track and Field Games

Barney Ewell Ties Olympic Mark in '100';  
Seven Others Share Remaining Six Titles

By SAM LACY

AFRO Sports Editor

NEW YORK—Eight tan-skinned athletes were crowned United States champions in the National Amateur Athletic Union track and field meet, held Friday and Saturday at Triborough Stadium, Randalls Island.

Between them, they accounted for seven titles in the annual two-day cinder carnival, roster of winners of which includes such illustrious names as Jesse Owens, Eddie Tolan, Ralph Metcalfe, Howard Drew, Sol Butler, Ned Gourdin, DeHart Hubbard and a host of others.

Two of the eight will share the distinction of being the nation's best at high jumping, Josh Williamson and Dave Albritton finishing in a four-way tie, with Richard Schnacke, Massena, N.Y., and Les Howe, Columbia Midshipman's School, both white, in that event.

meter hurdles on opening day.

Williamson and Kelley, incidentally, were two of the four defending champions to repeat in their respective events. Harris, however, a double-champion in 1944, did not defend either his 200-meter hurdles crown or his 400-meter title, electing to change to the 100 and 200-meter flat races this year.

In addition to these titles, nine seconds went to colored contestants and a countless number of thirds and fourths.

### Ewell Sparkles

Jimmy Herbert, 29-year-old veteran of Grand Street Boys' Association and a pre-meet favorite to capture the 400-meter title, was second to McKenley in that event, in which an ordinary bathtowel

speed that the highly-touted Perry Samuels, white Texas schoolboy, was nowhere near him at any point of the race.

### Herbert Outgamed

What made Ewell's trick all the more amazing was the fact that he turned in his clocking without being pressed. His nearest competitor, Samuels, was a healthy five yards in his wake when Barney breasted the tape.

McKenley's score in the 400-meter dash, perhaps, should receive first ranking for excitement. The New England quarter-mile champion broke alertly, set all the pace to the turn out of the back lanes, stood off a challenge by John Taylor, then outgamed Jimmy Herbert, who came with his characteristic late rush in the run for the wire.

Herbert, settling in fourth place behind McKenley, Taylor and Gil Phillips, white New Yorker, was satisfied to remain in that position until the final bend. Once there, he moved up with a strong bid that seemed destined to justify the pre-race favoritism he enjoyed.

Tom Dickey and George Guida, both white of Louisiana State and Sampson Naval, respectively.

All out to do this, he had to muster another burst of speed to stand off white Bob Crowson, of Columbia, Mo., who came blazing up in the final yards to barely miss taking the decision. This race and the 400-meter final were the two closest finishes of the two days of competition.

Kelley's triumph was similar to his victory in last year's 800-meter test. The spindly-legged Illini star contented himself in fourth place behind Milton Smith and Bob Fairservice, white pace-setters, and Stan Callender of the New York University twins.

### Simms Disappoints

Midway of the final bend, Kelley saw Callender make his move, and the Westerner did likewise. Both swept past the two leaders and straightened out in the run for home. Bob, though, had too much left for the bespectacled Harlemit and he crossed the finish line with a margin of nine yards over his rival.



# 82h-1945 2 Sprinters Spark Upset with 5 Firsts Walker and Kelley Build 11-Point Edge

BY LYALL SMITH  
Free Press Sports Editor

CHAMPAIGN — A string of first places . . . 7 in 14 events . . . swept Illinois to its 13th Big Ten track and field title in an upset victory over the defending champions from the University of Michigan. The score was 65 1/2 to 54 1/6.

The day was hot, sultry and apparently made to order for freshman George Walker and veteran Bob Kelley of the Illini. His pair of Negro sprinters ran up 25 points with Walker winning three events and Kelley two.

The Wolverines were after their 21st title, but were shunted aside by the spree of individual honors won by the same team they nosed out for the indoor title last spring. Only in the mile run where Ross and Bob Hume tied for first and in the two-mile where Charley Birdsall nosed out Ross Hume to be the winner did they capture first places.

OTHER TEAMS trailed in this order: Minnesota, 27 1/2; Ohio State, 22; Purdue, 20 1/2; Wisconsin, 14 1/3, and Indiana six. Chicago, Iowa and Northwestern did not score.

Prize package of the meet was Walker, from Blue Island, Ill., who is in his first year of track competition. His winning mark of :23.4 in the low hurdles was the top competitive mark of the day.

MICHIGAN WENT scoreless in the shot put and discus throw—while the Illini jumped away to an eight-point lead. But in the mile run, the famed Hume twins—Ross and Bob—turned in their favorite act to tie for the title in 4:26.7. And give the Wolverines their first points.

Walter Fairervis and Bob Thomason, also of Michigan, finished third and fourth respectively.

The Illini then turned on the steam in the next three events to

regain the lead with first places in the sprints and low hurdles.

LEADING THE DRIVE was the brilliant Walker who won the century and then came back 15 minutes later to repeat in the low hurdles. Added to Kelley's triumph in the 440-yard dash, the surge put Illinois ahead after six events with 32 points to 21 for Michigan.

Kelley came back in the half-mile to win his second victory with a down-the-stretch drive. Fred Swartzendruber of Illinois set the pace and drew out Michigan's runners to open the road for Kelley. However, the Wolverine's Bob Hume, Parsons and Fairervis were in the next three places.

That meant six more points for Illinois and nine for Michigan to pull the Illini total to 38 to 30 for Michigan.

The parade of Illini winners continued in the 220-yard dash when Marc Gonzalez won in :21.9 and Bill Buster, his team-mate, finished fourth. Michigan's Orval Johnson was fifth and Illinois increased its lead to 13 points.

HENRY AIHARA leaped to a victory in the broad jump to become the sixth Illinois man to win his event. Michigan again went scoreless and the gap between the two contenders began to expand.

Michigan finally broke into the point column again in the two-mile where the judges ruled that Birdsall nosed out his running mate, Ross Hume, although the pair tried to hit the tape at the same time.

In the last event, the mile relay, the brilliant Kelley ran the second lap for Illinois and made up a five-yard deficit to give Illinois a half-way lead but Michigan made it up and the Wolverines won with Illinois second.

FINAL  
Discus—Won by Dugger (OSU); Hayes (Ind.), second; Blom (Ill.), third; McWilliams (OSU), fourth; Agasa (Ill.), fifth. Distance—147 ft. 4 inches.  
SHOT PUT—Won by Rich (W), second Sprague (Ill.), third Dugger (OSU), fourth Slagle (OSU), fifth Hayes (Ind.). Distance—48 feet.

100-YARD DASH—Won by Walker (Ill.), tied for first; third Fairervis (Mich.), fourth Thomason (Mich.), fifth Mitchem (Ind.). Time—4:26.7.

440-YARD DASH—Won by Kelley (Ill.); second, Forrester (Mich.); third, Shepherd (Mich.); fourth, Gonzalez (Ill.); fifth, Hayes (Ill.). Time—48.4.

100-YARD DASH—Won by Walker (Ill.), Brownstein (Minn.), second, Buster (Ill.), third, Harvey (P) fourth, Zimmerman (Ill.) fifth. Time—:09.9.

120-YARD HIGH HURDLES—Won by Walker (Ill.); Cranston (Minn.), second; Jackson (OSU), third; Burghardt (Ill.), fourth; Seibert (OSU), fifth. Time—:15.

880-YARD RUN—Won by Kelley (Ill.); Fairervis (Mich.), second; Parsons (Mich.), third; Bob Hume (Mich.), fourth; Swartzendruber (Ill.), fifth. Time—1:55.5.

220-YARD DASH—Won by Gonzalez (Ill.), Dimancheff (P) second, Harvey (P) third; Buster (Ill.), fourth; Johnson

(Mich.), fifth. Time—:21.9.  
BROAD JUMP—Won by Aihara (Ill.); Tharp (Minn.), second; Yamamoto (Minn.), third; Brownstein (Minn.) fourth; Dimancheff (P) fifth. Distance—22 feet 4 3/4 inches.  
HIGH JUMP—Won by Kilpatrick (P), McNabe (Mich.) and Killen (Minn.) tied for second, Aihara (Ill.) and Miller (P) tied for fifth. Height—6 feet 2 3/4 inches.  
MILE RELAY—Won by Michigan (Mann, McConnell, Shepherd, Forrester), Illinois second, Purdue third, Wisconsin fourth, Ohio State fifth. Time—3:22.1.  
TWO-MILE RUN—Won by Birdsall, (Mich.), Ross Hume (Mich.) second, Lawson (W) third, Webster (W) fourth, Davis (P) fifth. Time—9:50.2.  
POLE VVAULT—Won by Schmidt (OSU), Phelps (Ill.) second, Lauritsen (Mich.) third, Kelly (W) fourth, Scheer (Mich.), Bentz (Mich.) and Levine (W) tied for fifth. Height—13 feet 4 inches.  
220-YARD LOW HURDLES—Won by Walker (Ill.), Tharp (Minn.) second, Cranston (Minn.) third, Dykema (Mich.) fourth, Burghardt (Ill.) fifth. Time—:23.4.

## Tuskegee Negro Girl Cops AAU 100-Meter Title

HARRISBURG, Pa., July 1—(AP)—A new champion rules the feminine track world.

Alice Coachman, 21-year-old student at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, had her dreams come true Saturday when she beat Stella Walsh of Cleveland in the 100-meter dash, feature event of the Women's National AAU track and field championships.

"I first dreamed of beating Stella when I was only 14," the fleet Negro sprinter said after her upset victory.

"Now that my dream has come true I do not know what to say."

Not satisfied with turning back the former Olympic star, the Tuskegee girl chalked up her seventh straight win in the high jump and came within one-tenth of a second of the world's record by winning the 50-meter dash in 6.5 seconds.

"Seven" figured prominently in the 1945 championships. Undismayed over her setback in the century, Stella Walsh made it seven in a row by winning the broad jump with a leap of 18 feet, three inches. She also took the 200 meter race in 26.6 seconds, three seconds slower than the world record.

The mystic seven turned up the third time when Dorothy Dodson of Chicago won the javelin throw for the seventh straight year with a heave of 124 feet, 10 inches.

Stella had no alibi to offer after her defeat, but the crowd which sweltered in the 95-degree heat was aware of a heavy tape on the Cleveland girl's right leg.

"I strained the muscle of my leg a trifle in practicing for the broad jump," said Stella. "Then in the preliminary heat of the 200 meter it gave me a little trouble."

"Coachman deserves all the credit for beating me," quickly added Stella. "But I will get revenge next year."

Other winners were Francis Sobczak, of Cleveland, triumphant in the discus and shot put; Lilly Purifoy, of Tuskegee, who repeated in the 80 meter dash; Marie Twining of Philadelphia Moose in the baseball throw, and the Laurel Ladies' club, triumphant for the third straight year in the relay event.

## Jersey Soldier Wins AAU Javelin Toss; 5 Others Star

Baltimore, Md.  
BLOOMFIELD, N.J. — Taking first place in the javelin throw event and giving good account of himself in nine other contests, Joshua Williamson, former Atlantic City High trackster, won fifth place in the 27th annual national AAU decathlon meet here on Saturday and Sunday.

Williamson, whose parents live in Atlantic City, has been in the armed services nearly three years and is stationed in Camp Plauche La.

Among 19 other national track stars, Williamson amassed 5,362 points for fifth spot in the meet.

Jersey tracksters taking part in special AAU events included:

Phil Thigpen, Rahway and Union County distant runner; William Payne and Fred Clements, both Jersey City 100-yard stars; Andrew Stanfield, who participated in 440-yard handicap, and Booker Anderson of Plainfield.



# Herbert Wins: Conwell Out In Metropolitan AAU Meet

NEW YORK—Driving with all his power when thirty yards from home, Jimmy Herbert, former New York University middle distance runner who now represents the Grand Street Boys, made track history in Saturday night's Metropolitan A. A. U. senior championships, opening event of the indoor season, at the 22nd Regiment Armory in upper Manhattan.

Judging his race perfectly, Herbert gained his fifth victory in the 600 yard run by defeating Maurice Callender, New York University star, by the margin of a yard. He negotiated the distance in 1:13.7.

Herbert, an old favorite as a result of the many brilliant performances he gave both as a varsity runner and then as a club athlete was one of five champions on hand to defend the laurels they won a year ago.

For a time it appeared as if the postal employe, now studying to be a lawyer, was destined to go down to defeat for his N. Y. U. adversary passed him on the backstretch in the last lap. On the final turn, however, Herbert made up the two-yard deficit and then went on to stave off the last bid by Callender.

Herbert's record for the distance, made two years ago, is 1:17.4 and his winning time last year was 1:12.5.

Another defending champion, Eddie Conwell, New York University speed merchant, had to let his title go by default as he was eliminated by Starter Jack Lavelle after two false starts. The 60-yard sprint crown went to John Sherlock of the New York Athletic Club, who stepped off the distance in 0:06.6, three-tenths of a second off the meet record jointly held by Conwell and Thomas A. Carey of the Pioneer Club.

As was generally expected, James Rafferty, 28 year old New York Athletic Club ace, won the mile event. Looked upon as the "miler of '45" now that Gil Dodds has retired and Bill Hughes is in the Navy and Don Burnham in medical school, Rafferty justified predictions by gaining the title by a 35-yard margin over Rudy Simms, running for the Pioneer Club since he is ineligible to represent N. Y. U.

For a part of the time between there and the finish Simms clung closely behind Rafferty, with Quinn dropping back. Then Rafferty began to leave Simms behind as he put on his finishing drive.



Herb McKenley (right) edging out Jim Herbert (center) and Johnny Taylor in the 400-meter run

Kelley, Erwin and Dreyer Keep  
Crowns—N. Y. A. C. Team

Repeats as Champion

N. Y. Times

By LOUIS EFFRAT

So full of running it was evident from the start that he was the man to beat, Roland Sink, transplanted Californian now a Harvard midshipman, proved unbeatable and easily captured the 1,500-meter run, one of the featured events on the program of the fifty-seventh annual National A. A. U. outdoor track and field championships at Randalls Island yesterday.

The biggest thrill of the hot afternoon came at the finish of the 400-meter run, which resulted in a photo finish involving Herb McKenley of Boston and the veteran Jim Herbert of the Grand Street Boys. The latter, who never had won a national outdoor cham-

pionship, appeared to have gained that distinction after having whittled down McKenley's three-yard lead in the home-stretch.

However, the official placing had McKenley the winner by inches, with Herbert, who seemed to have faltered just at the finish, a yard in front of 17-year-old Johnny Taylor of the New York Pioneer Club, a product of De Witt Clinton High School. Taylor suddenly had made himself a threat, after having been content to trail along in fourth place.

Well Off the Record

The time of this event was 0:48.4, well off the national record, but time meant little in this exciting duel. It was a grand contest.

Julio Ramirez, champion of Uruguay, stumbling over the second barrier, lost his chance to win the American crown in the 110-meter hurdles test. First place went to Charley Morgan of the New Orleans A. C., who defeated August Erfurth of San Antonio, Tex., in 0:14.9.



# Dillard, Ex-Baldwin-Wallace Star, Is 1-Man Track Team to Buddies Overseas

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with  
U.S. Troops in Italy

ROME, Italy—Track teams may come and track stars may go but you can bet your bottom dollar that whenever the cinder sport is mentioned, some enthusiast who did a hitch for dear old Uncle overseas in World War II will bring up the name of Pfc. William (One Man Track Team) Dillard, high and low hurdler par-excellent, current Army track sensation overseas.

Star of the recent ETO-MTON track meet held in Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany where in winning three events he set three new service records, Dillard, a slender soft-spoken Cleveland, Ohio kid from the 370th Infantry Regiment of the 92nd Division, where he is a switchboard operator, has sparked his team through to win three team meets and held them in the running in titular games until failure of the MTO team to hold its own in the field events lost them the meet.

Dillard began to make a name for himself at East Technical High School in Cleveland, and was an English major at Baldwin-Wallace College when drafted. In his last civilian track appearance, participating in and winning 3 events, he almost single-handedly won for his Baldwin-Wallace team its first Ohio title.

While in the States his track career lists the following achievements: Illinois Tech Relay high and low hurdles champion, Ohio Conference 100 and 200-yard dash champion and Penn Relay high-hurdles champion. Bill has done the 220 low hurdles in 22.8 his best high hurdles performances was 14.5.

In the MTO-ETO track meet at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Dillard opened the program by winning the 110-meter high hurdles in 14.6 a time surpassing the best efforts of any track meet in the U. S. this year. He hardly had time to sit down before he pulled the MTO 400-meter relay team out of a de- and hurdle events are virtually unlimited.

Matty Geis, former Princeton track coach, when asked which of the men in the meet he would like to take back to school with him exclaimed, "Just give me Dillard he's a growing Jesse Owens."

Geis who has coached Princeton track team for 15 years and is

now overseas as a member of the Sports School faculty, said that track coaches at home wouldn't believe their eyes when they read of the performances in this inter-theatre meet.

When asked what he thought of Dillard's performance, Geis said, "I think his secret is that he never hesitates at the first hurdle and after that he's on his way. . . . It's hard to tell how good Dillard is for so far in his specialties overseas he has never been pushed, if he is exerting himself it never shows. We'll hear more of him at home."

Sgt. Pete White, 2588 7th Ave., New York City, former N.C. Col-track meet held in Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany where in winning three events he set three new service records, Dillard, a slender soft-spoken Cleveland, Ohio kid from the 370th Infantry Regiment of the 92nd Division, where he is a switchboard operator, has sparked his team through to win three team meets and held them in the running in titular games until failure of the MTO team to hold its own in the field events lost them the meet.

Dillard has been overseas 11 months. He wears the combat infantryman's badge for his role in the Genoa push.

mates call him, said he wasn't a bit tired as he next triumphed in the 200-meter low hurdles with ridiculous ease for another service record of 23.6 then later in the afternoon took the 220-meter dash to make a grand total of four victories for the day.

## Crack GI Track Team Won Six of 7 Meets

ROME, Italy—The MTO cinder team, headed by Pfc. William Dillard, has engaged in seven track meets during the past four months, losing only to the ETO outfit last month, 69-54.

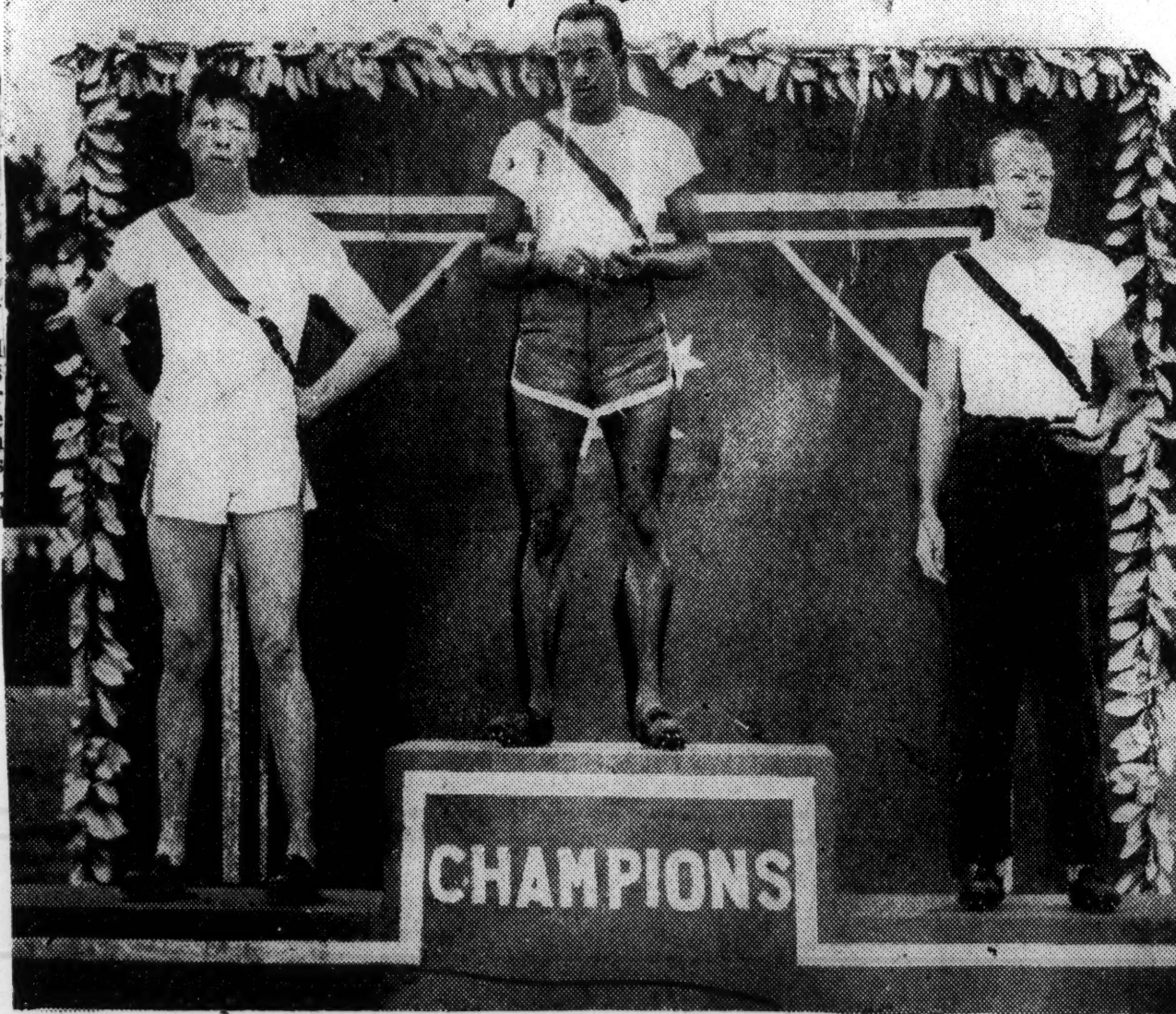
What began as a mixed organization has gradually been transformed into an all-colored team. This is not due to any racial separation but to the fact the colored lads proved to be markedly superior to their teammates.

Top performers on the team, and men any college coach would be elated to have, are: Sgt. Don Evans, half-miler, Woodbury, N.J.; Pvt. Harry Waters, shotput-discus, Wildwood, N.J.; Sgt. Pete White, trainer, NYC; Pfc. Russell Jones, high-jumper, Lawnside, N.J.; Cpl. Roscoe Browne, 400-meter, Lawnside, N.J.; Pvt.

George Foster, hurdler, Newark, N.J.;

Pfc. Mitchell Williams, 1500-meters, Philadelphia; Sgt. Thelo Knowles, half-miler, Santa Monica, Calif.; Cpl. John Miles, 100-meters, Macon, Ga.; Pvt. Frank Stevens, 100-meters, Birmingham; M/Sgt. Lloyd Crable, high-jumper, Cleveland; Sgt. Mel Ellerbe, 100-meter, Tuskegee; Sgt. Lee Farmer, broad-jump, Maywood, Ill.; Pvt. Robert Smith, shotput, Ocean Springs, Miss.; Pvt. Richard Ford, dash, Detroit; Pvt. James Tucker, dash, Houston.

*The Afro American* Baltimore, Maryland  
9-29-45





# A Busy Afternoon With Bill Dillard, One-Man GI Track Team



## Negro Girl Gains 3 AAU Selections

Alice Coachman of Tuskegee Institute and Stella Walsh of Cleveland are the dominant figures on the National AAU Women's All-America Track and Field team for 1945, selected by the National Women's Track and Field Committee and announced yesterday by the Amateur Athletic Union. The talented Negro girl from Tuskegee was nominated for three individual positions, Miss Walsh for two and both were 400-meter relay selections.

National champion at 50 and 100 meters, Miss Coachman was given top ranking in these sprint events and the running high jump, in which she also holds the national title. Miss Walsh, an Olympic victor for Poland in 1932 and 1936 and a headline performer since 1929, was picked for the 200-meter run and running broad jump. 1-11-46

A busy afternoon with versatile Bill Dillard, outstanding U.S. Army athlete in Europe. The sensational Cleveland, Ohio, and former Baldwin-Wallace track star is shown in above strip (1) winning the 200; (2) taking time out for a soft drink between events; (3) capturing the 110 high hurdles; (4) on the victors' podium awaiting his medal, one of the four times he climbed to the winners' stand during the recent ETO-MTO track meet at Frankfurt.—(Stars and Stripes).